

Trafalgar to sell 'Express'

The Daily Express, Sunday Express and Daily Star are to be sold as soon as Trafalgar House, the present owners, can find a buyer. Lord Matthews, chief executive, told print union leaders that the group titles will be sold, together with the Morgan-Grampian publishing group, as a new company Fleet Newspapers. Unions have been told that all titles will continue to publish, despite heavy losses. Page 15

Tory MP attacks lorry weights

A government proposal to raise the maximum lorry weight from 32.5 to 40 tonnes will not go through without a fight, Mr Hugh Dykes, Conservative MP for Harrow, East, said. "The Government may even have to withdraw the plan," he said. New weights, page 5

EEC energy agreement

An agreement on energy pricing principles to be followed throughout the EEC will be formally endorsed at a Council of Ministers meeting tomorrow. Britain took the initiative because of complaints that its industries were being hit by unfair subsidies elsewhere in the Community. Page 15

Colour licence now costs £46

The price of a colour television licence went up to £46 from midnight, an extra £1 a month on the present fee of £45, which has been in force for two years. The cost of a black and white licence rises from £12 to £15. Back page

Maze solicitors in inquest clash

The 10 Maze prisoners all died from "self-imposed starvation" in an inquest jury at Hillsborough, co. Down, found. Solicitors for the next of kin were involved in clashes with the coroner when they tried to inject a political note into the proceedings. Page 2

Esso drivers set to strike

A strike by Esso Petroleum's 1,700 tanker drivers and depot staff seemed likely as workers at almost 40 depots voted on the company's £1.50 pay offer. Transport union members at the usually moderate Hythe terminal near Southampton voted overwhelmingly to strike. Page 2

Sabotage cuts Angola's oil

Angola's oil output has been sharply reduced after Uzin guerrillas blew up part of a refinery near Luanda. The refinery, which operates the plant, said it would be shut for two months. The Angolan Government has blamed South Africa. Page 6



England crash to Test defeat

To an accompaniment of firecrackers and roars of approval from a crowd of 50,000 England were hustled to a 138-run defeat in the first Test match by India's seam bowlers, Kapil Dev (left) and Madan Lal, who took five wickets each. Page 19

Winning return for jockey

John O'Neill, the former champion National Hunt jockey, rode a winner on his return to riding at Wetherby. O'Neill shattered his leg in a fall at Bangor 13 months ago. Page 21

Leader page, 11

Letters: On the Scarman report, from the Rev Harry Potter, and others; Labour and Europe, from Sir Anthony Meyer, MP and Lord Chelwood; Lord Boyle trust, from Dame Janet Baker and others. Leading articles: Europe; industrial training; Party political broadcasts. Features, pages 9 and 10

More money for museums, but is it enough? Henry Fairlie looks at the end of the special relationship with America. Princess and the pearls; Fashion by Suzy Menkes. Obituary, page 12

Dr L. R. Butler, Count Umberto Morra

Home News 2-5	Law Report 3
Overseas 5-8	Parliament 4
Arts 12	Property 22
Business 14-18	Sale Rooms 22
Cities 18	Schools 22
Church 12	Sport 19-22
Court 12	TV & Radio 22
Crossword 26	Theatres, etc 22
Diary 10	25 Years Ago 12
Events 26	Wills 12

Howe package may lead to income tax cuts

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Public spending at £115bn next year will fall as a share of national output for the first time since the Government took office. In a statement to the Commons today the Chancellor is expected to say that despite various increases in public spending the public sector share of total output will drop from 45 to 44 per cent. He will be vague on what his means for his Budget next year, though the outcome of the Government's attempts to cut spending and raise revenues could be to give him room for significant tax cuts in the spring.

But the balance has been achieved only by raising more from ratepayers, council tenants and the sick and by not fully compensating the unemployed for the effects of inflation. This is how the package will look. RATES: They will go up by 15 to 20 per cent. This is because of two things: the rate support grant is being cut for England from 59 per cent this year to 56 per cent of total local authority spending. Secondly, the councils are being allowed to spend an extra £1bn above the total announced at Budget time. More than a third of this is for local authority subsidies on transport in London. Council rents: They will rise more than the rate of inflation. State industries: They will be able to borrow an extra £1bn to finance investment and cover losses caused by the continuing recession.

The Chancellor said: "An extra £1bn will be provided for special measures to cut the queue and train young people. Defence: Treasury attempts to cut big spending plans have failed. There is an extra £500m next year. Notable areas for cuts are: Students: Their grants will go up by only 4 per cent next year in line with the Government's pay target, which means about a 7 per cent cut in living standards. Prescriptions: Up from £1 to £1.25 in 1982.

Although the final spending figure of £115bn is £5bn more than the Treasury's initial estimate of what previously agreed plans ought to cost the Government now recognizes that those estimates were built on extremely low assumptions about price rises and inflation. The Government thought that the total cost of all its goods and services would go up by 7 per cent next year. It now thinks that this is about 2 per cent too low, putting a further squeeze on the volume of spending. The volume of spending is likely to turn out little different from the figure for the current year. The cash figure for 1980-81 is now thought to be about £12bn above its target at £107bn. But a very large contingency reserve is allocated to pay for any further spending decisions. The question of vital importance still hanging in the air is what to do about the money from selling state assets such as the North Sea oil fields and gas assets next year. Pressure is mounting to use this money to finance tax cuts to stimulate the economy. At the same time the Chancellor will give details of his latest economic forecast which shows output rising next year, the first such rise since he took office.

Wage earners will suffer from an increase in national insurance contributions, which might go up by as much as 11 per cent to cover the cost of unemployment. This is equivalent to an increase of 1p to 1.5p in the pound for most ordinary taxpayers. It takes effect next spring. Benefits Sir Geoffrey faced continuing pressure from ministerial colleagues and Conservative backbenchers yesterday to forgo a further £170m to £180m of the savings he was hoping to make next year (Julian Haviland writes). Emphasis on the duty of working people to support the

unemployed is a central theme of the draft statement he will deliver in the Commons today. With higher council rents, prescription charges and National Insurance contributions to announce he was reported to be still undecided about the political cost of denying full inflation protection to the unemployed, the sick and others drawing short-term benefits.

The Treasury's original plan to raise all short-term benefits next year by 5 per cent less than the cost of inflation was defeated when Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for the Social Services, objected. Those payments, which affect about 40 per cent of all payments, will be fully price-protected next year. But short-term benefits, raised last month by 9 per cent, will be lower by about 2p in the pound than the present rate of inflation.

The cost would be £170m to £180m, and having been compelled already by his Cabinet colleagues to increase next year's public expenditure by some £5,000m more than was allowed for last March, Sir Geoffrey was reluctant to yield at further sum.

Yesterday there were signs that he had relented at least to the extent of holding his hand until his Budget statement in the spring. Councillors Announcements to be made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for the Environment today will confirm that local authorities have won a big victory in their two-and-a-half year battle with the Government over spending (David Walker writes). They will be allowed to spend £18,000m next year, £1,000m more than was laid down in the apparently inviolable limits in the public expenditure White Paper in March, and reconfirmed in September by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

However, the Government's share of that increased total for England will be reduced from this year's 59 per cent rate support grant to 56 or 57 per cent, leaving some £500m extra to be borne on the rates. The concession on the central spending limit will mean that councils will have to cut expenditure next year by 3 per cent from this year's estimated level of expenditure, instead of the 6.9 per cent that would have been required had the Government's original targets still been in force.

That 6.9 per cent, which is the local authorities' estimate of the cut required, is made up of 2.4 to 3 per cent for the rise in prices above the Government's allowance for inflation this year, plus the 1 per cent the Government originally proposed for the reduction in local authority spending between this year and next, plus an estimated 4 to 5 per cent by which local authorities are exceeding the Government's targets for this year. The Government has given in to councils this year because it could not face the political consequences of the chaos and damage that would be caused by forcing authorities to reduce staff and services by nearly a tenth in a single year.



Shirley Williams back at 'old men's club'

A triumphant Mrs Shirley Williams returning to Westminster yesterday after nearly missing the train to London. Living up to her reputation, she climbed aboard the 09.05 Liverpool to Euston express with less than a minute to spare. Having won Crosby for the Social Democratic Party and Liberal Alliance, worried SDP officials draw increasingly anxious as the minutes ticked by and a Lime Street rail official said: "We are not holding up this train for anyone". As she tucked into a railway breakfast, Mrs Williams confessed that she did not fully relish the thought of her Commons comeback. "It's an old man's club and the sooner the place changes the better," she said. "I'm delighted to be going back to do the job," she added, "but I won't pretend the Commons is a club I enjoy. Before I stood in the by-election, I thought about it long and hard and realized I had to go back but I can't pretend to like it. "It's terribly out-dated: there's too much spare time boozing and too many old men. We could do with more women to put it into shape with regular hours of 9 to 5. Having said that, I like politics, I like elections, I like campaigning and I like party work. I just don't like the Commons."

Parliamentary report, page 4
Frank Johnson, back page

Reagan aide cleared on payment

From Nicholas Hirst Washington, Dec 1

The American Justice Department today cleared Mr Richard Allen, of breaking the law in receiving \$1,000 (£550) from Japanese journalists. But it is not clear whether he will be able to resume his post as the President's National Security Adviser from which he voluntarily stepped down at the weekend.

Mr Edwin Meese, the White House counsel, said Mr Allen would not necessarily return if cleared. He said the decision would influence, but not determine the issue.

Mr William French Smith, the Attorney-General, has concluded that a special prosecutor should not be appointed to investigate the payment. Justice Department statement said: "The department has not received or discovered any specific information that Mr Allen violated federal criminal law."

Mr Allen received the money after helping to arrange an interview between Mrs Reagan and a Japanese magazine. It had not been intended as a gift to him and he had not intended to keep it, the Justice Department said.

It was unclear, however, the department said, whether a special prosecutor should be appointed to look into Mr Allen's receipt of two watches and his disclosure that he made a mistake when declaring his financial affairs on taking office earlier this year. Mr Allen has said he incorrectly stated the date when he sold his consulting firm.

Last night President Reagan was evasive when asked if Mr Allen was involved in any "We'll have to wait and see the outcome of this," he said. The Justice Department said it had interviewed 36 people in America and Japan about the payment. Mr Allen, who placed the money given by the Japanese as a "thank you" for the interview with Mrs Reagan, in a safe, intending to hand it to the Treasury, but forgot about it. The Japanese have said the money was intended for charity.

The Justice Department said there was no evidence the cash was intended for Mr Allen. In sum, when the undisputed facts are analysed in the context of possible applicable criminal laws, it is clear there was no criminal violation by Allen regarding the \$1,000, the statement said.

Mr Allen had not intended to keep the money for his personal use, according to the statement. "Both Allen and his secretary agree on Allen's expressed intent to turn the money over through the proper channels."

Students

The only area of education spending that will be mentioned by the Chancellor today will be student grants. (Diana Geddes writes). He will announce that they will go up by only 4 per cent next year, in line with wages. That will mean a big cut in the real value of the grant because of the much higher rate at which prices are expected to rise. The minimum grant of £430 will also increase by only 4 per cent.

The maximum grant for a student living away from home in London will go to £1,898; for a student living away from home out of London to £1,596; and for a student living at home to £1,227. The National Union of Students has put in a claim for a 17.4 per cent rise.

Peace formula put to BL union leaders

By David Felton and Clifford Webb

A new peace formula to end the month-long strike which has closed BL's Longbridge factory emerged last night after a secret meeting between Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, and Mr Mostyn Evans, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU).

The plan, which was communicated to Midlands officials of the union, calls for a return to work under the status quo to allow a four-week cooling off period for negotiations on relaxation time.

While Sir Michael and Mr Evans were holding their lunch-time meeting at a London hotel, union pickets laid siege to the Longbridge plant. Only 3,000 of the plant's 10,000 production workers turned up for work yesterday. The company said that the number officially in dispute had risen from 2,200 on Monday to 4,000, but that figure does not take account of the further 5,000 who did not cross picket lines yesterday.

Leaders of Midlands lorry drivers pledged support for the strikers and said that no deliveries of materials will enter the plant. Since the official pickets were mounted by the TGWU on Monday afternoon no components have been delivered and only a trickle of engines and gear boxes have left for the Cowley plant, near Oxford.

Mr Brian Mathers, the TGWU's senior official in the Midlands, said the peace plan had been sent by teletypewriter to the union's Birmingham office. "It means the men would resume with their full 12 per cent relaxation time allowance, and it would be open to them to come out on strike again if the month produces nothing to satisfy them."

Thatcherite economist says he was wrong

By Melvyn Westlake

Dr Alan Budd, who together with the Government's chief economist, Professor Terry Burns, developed the economic theories of which the Government has largely based its policies during the last two years, admits that a central part of his theory is wrong.

Delivering his recantation at a seminar for economists in London yesterday, Dr Budd said that he no longer believed that inflation could be brought down reasonably quickly by allowing sterling's exchange rate to rise in value against other currencies. He now believes that the Government made a serious mistake last year when it allowed the exchange value of the pound to surge upwards.

Dr Budd is director of the Centre for Economic Forecasting at the London Business School, which in the 1970s developed and elaborated a set of theories known as "international monetarism". Those theories had a considerable influence on the thinking of leading Conservatives when in Opposition.

After taking office, the present Government appointed Dr Budd's collaborator, Professor Burns, to the post of chief economic adviser and head of the government economic service. In repudiating one of the central planks of international monetarism, Dr Budd has knocked away the theoretical justification for much of the tough action taken by Treasury Ministers. Such action, which

A royal banquet ruined

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent

Senior politicians were last night hauled unexpectedly from a dinner, being given by the Speaker of the House of Commons for the Prince and Princess of Wales when Mr Tam Dalyell, the unpredictable Labour MP for West Lothian, staged a one-man demonstration and forced a division on whether the House should adjourn for the night.

Dinner-jacketed MPs flocked back into the Chamber wondering what was going on as the division bells began ringing. Mr Dalyell, who has been bawling on behalf of factory closures in his constituency, suddenly arrived in the House after discovering that the scheduled business of the day was folding up almost two hours ahead of time. He demanded the right to initiate another debate.

Over at the dinner in the Speaker's house, as the division bells started clanging, there was general consternation. The Prime Minister, sitting next to the royal couple, was not amused. Mr Michael Cocks, the Labour Chief Whip, rushed to apologise to the Speaker. The Speaker, in his turn, apologised to the Prince and Princess. But ahead of him, as far as Mr Dalyell was concerned, he set the division by 72 votes to 32.

Mr Dennis Mills, chairman of the central union committee representing 5,000 West Midlands lorry drivers, said the drivers would give total support to the BL strikers. The 3,000 workers who reported Longbridge yesterday were employed mainly in the engine, gearbox and foundry areas.

Between the end of 1979 and the end of 1980, the exchange rate of the pound against a basket of currencies rose about 13 per cent. At the same time, average inflation in the main industrialised countries averaged about 12 per cent. But prices in Britain rose by no less than 18 per cent.

That suggests that international competition has much less effect on the prices of our goods than exponents of international monetarism have accepted until now. However, Professor Burns and Dr Budd originally argued that "fears of massive unemployment resulting from tight monetary policy are exaggerated."

This assurance made the high exchange rate strategy so attractive to the Government.

SDP wins control of its first council

By David Walker

The London borough of Islington will next week become the first unit of government in Britain to be run by the Social Democratic Party. It is also the only borough all of whose Labour MPs have abandoned the party. Two, Mr Michael O'Halloran and Mr John Grant have joined the SDP. Mr George Cunningham has become an independent.

Tomorrow three members of the council's ruling Labour group will announce their intention to join the social democrats, a formality that will push the strength of the new party on the council to 26 against Labour's 24 and the Conservatives' two.

At a special council meeting next week, the social democrats will announce their candidates for leadership and the key committee chairmanships.

At a meeting of Islington Labour councillors yesterday Mr David Hyams, Mr Christopher Pryce and Mr William Moloney, members respectively for the Finsbury, St Peter's and Holloway wards, announced their plans.

They voted with their colleagues at a council meeting, but from tomorrow they consider themselves free of any obligations to the party which has run municipal affairs in Islington almost since local government in London was reformed in the early 1960s.

Twenty-two of the 23 social democrats on the council changed their party label from Labour earlier this year; another was returned under Social Democratic Party colours at a by-election in September.

Their leader is the former Labour leader, Mr Gerald Southgate. By next week he is likely to be running Islington in the way he was as recently as March when he was deposed from within the Labour Party.

The man who succeeded him, Mr Donald Hoodless, said last night that an SDP-controlled council threatened the standard of services to the people. "I shall be fascinated by what they put in their manifesto for the borough elections in May next year," he said. The issue between us is the quality of local services."

The new defectors to the SDP formerly held responsible positions in the borough's administration, implying that the new SDP council will not be short of practical experience. Mr Pryce was, until the summer, chairman of the housing committee; Mr Hyams is still responsible for new economic development in Islington.

According to Mr Moloney a distinguishing characteristic of the SDP council will be its suspicion of the local authority trade unions.

The defection to the SDP is good news for Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment. Under the new party, Islington Council is likely next year to set a rate well within his guidelines.

How SDP won, page 2

Now: 10 flights to South Africa every week!

TUESDAY	JOHANNESBURG	THURSDAY	JOHANNESBURG
WEDNESDAY	JOHANNESBURG	FRIDAY	JOHANNESBURG
THURSDAY	CAPE TOWN	SATURDAY	JOHANNESBURG
FRIDAY	JOHANNESBURG	SUNDAY	DURBAN
SATURDAY	CAPE TOWN	SUNDAY	JOHANNESBURG

With the introduction of another direct flight to Cape Town, SAA now more than ever, offers the Lion's Share! Only SAA has such a wide choice of flights from London to South Africa - 10 a week (including 3 non-stop). Only SAA has best connecting flights to 12 internal destinations. Include our reputation for superb in-flight service, comfort and hospitality plus our new first class Stratosleepers and our new Gold Class, and you'll see what we mean by the Lion's Share.

For full details call your IATA Travel Agent or SAA offices at: 251 Regent Street, London W1R 7AD. Tel: 01-734 0941. Waterlooside, Birmingham Tel: 021-442 9604. Hope Street, Glasgow Tel: 041-221 3842. Rector Street, Manchester Tel: 061-841 4434.

SAA

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

We offer you the Lion's Share

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Princess to miss two more visits

The Princess of Wales yesterday announced that she would not accompany the Prince on today's visit to the West Country or to the Chippenham fatstock show dinner at Chippenham on Monday.

The royal couple were scheduled to open the new maritime rescue coordination centre at Falmouth today.

Buckingham Palace said yesterday that the Princess was in excellent general health but "her medical advice continues to be that she should avoid strenuous days of public engagements".

Boy helps in killer hunt



A classmate of the murdered schoolboy John Haddon, aged 13, taking part in a police reconstruction yesterday. Ben, also 13, cycled the one mile from Bishop Vesey Grammar School to Sutton Park, West Midlands, where John was last seen alive last Friday.

Jail censorship of mail relaxed

Censorship of letters from prisoners has been relaxed, Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, announced yesterday. That was predicted in *The Times* on September 13.

Prisoners will be able to send material for publication, subject to conditions. Prisoners were formerly entitled to write only to relatives, people they knew before they came into custody, MPs and other specified persons. Now they may correspond with anyone, with a few specified exceptions.

More Asians and blacks

The black and Asian population in Britain is estimated to have reached 2.1 million by mid-1980, according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

Constable jailed

Det Constable Bernard Brindley, aged 35, of Hornchurch, who submitted an inaccurate report in an attempt to help a criminal was jailed for nine months by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Lawyers clash with coroner at Maze inquest

From Christopher Thomas, Hillsborough, co. Down

Armed police surrounded the village of Hillsborough yesterday for the inquest on 10 Maze prison hunger strikers who died between May and August. Most witnesses were identified by numbers because of fears for their safety, a practice that angered solicitors representing relatives of the 10.

The solicitors repeatedly tried to inject a political note by attempting to examine the reasons for the hunger strike but were overruled by Mr Arthur Orr, the coroner. The jury returned a unanimous verdict that the hunger strikers died of self-imposed starvation.

The QC for the Crown, who was identified but later asked reporters not to use his name because he wanted to keep a "low profile", told the jury: "It is not for us to explore questions as to why the deceased men embarked on this hunger strike or what they sought to achieve. It is neither necessary nor desirable that we at this inquest should go into such matters. Your findings are best conducted by proceeding with proper decorum and without dramatics."

Mr Kevin Agnew, a solicitor representing one of the men's families, clashed with the coroner when he asked why witnesses were being identified by numbers. Mr Orr told him: "It is a matter of public interest. It is the purpose of the inquest to find out the truth. It is not for you to say 'I just do not understand that. It serves no purpose at all. It makes a farce of the whole thing.'"

Mr Patrick Finucane, representing the family of Mr Sands, and other hunger strikers, protested that the inquest was not concerned with the terminal cause of death. "I submit that these proceedings are entitled to look at the causal circumstances of death."

The pathologists' report on each of the 10 hunger strikers was broadly similar. Mr Sands, aged 27, a coalminer from Belfast, dropped from 10 to seven stone during his 66-day fast. There was a slight degree of bronchial pneumonia and an acute inflammatory condition of the lungs. Death was due primarily to starvation and bronchial pneumonia and biochemical aspects were terminal complications.

The hunger strikers were: Robert Sands, who died after being in hospital last night; Francis Hughes (59 days); Raymond McCreech (61 days); Patrick O'Hara (61 days); Joseph McDonnell (73 days); Kevin Lynch (71 days); Martin Hurson (46 days); Thomas McElwee (62 days); and Michael Devine (60 days).

A member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary was seriously ill in hospital last night after being shot several times by two gunmen in a terrorist ambush in Armagh town. Anti-terrorist police operations in the co Donegal area of the Irish Republic began at dawn yesterday after the discovery of a Provisional IRA training camp and arms.

The hideout was on one of a dozen or so tiny islands off the Donegal fishing village of Burtonport.

Esso faces all-out strike by drivers and depot staff

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Esso Petroleum management were steeling themselves last night for an all-out strike by their 1,700 tanker drivers and depot staff after a vote at a union meeting at a normally moderate depot was overwhelmingly in favour of strike action.

Most of the company's 40 depots voted yesterday on whether to follow the recommendation of their senior shop stewards for a strike in protest at the company's 8.1 per cent pay offer. Any strike is unlikely to start before Monday to allow time for further negotiations to be held.

The vote among Transport and General Workers Union members at the Hythe terminal near Southampton was 66-17 in favour of a strike and after new of that result, company management were privately saying that a strike looked likely.

Workers at Shell and Texaco have also been voting on their stewards' recommendations to embark on a series of one-day random strikes.

Together the three companies supply more than half of the country's petrol and oil. In response to the strike threats, the Ministry of Defence has drawn up contingency plans to ensure that emergency supplies are delivered by using men from the armed forces.

The Ministry's plans drew criticism from Mr Jack Ashwell, the TGWU's national secretary for commercial transport, who accused the

Government of scaremongering. He pointed out that the union had always covered emergency services and would continue also to provide fuel to old people's homes, hospitals and schools.

He said: "The whole thing is totally unnecessary. It is only Esso that has threatened an all-out strike and they represent a small proportion of the market."

Esso has 20 per cent of the market. Two weeks ago its drivers and depot staff voted by a 2-1 margin to reject the 8.1 per cent offer. They asked for further negotiations with the company, but when those talks were held Esso refused to make an increase.

The vote at Hythe, by a show of hands, represents only a small part of the overall workforce but Esso management was fearful that if they normally-moderate terminal had voted for a strike, a similar pattern would emerge across the country.

Mr John Mousdale, the TGWU's district secretary in Southampton representing oil workers, said last night: "The drivers were angry at the prospect of losing their negotiating link with men in the other oil companies. They hope this threat of industrial action will restore this link."

The union is seeking an 11 per cent increase in line with last May's distribution workers at BP, the largest supplier, have already accepted an 8.1 per cent deal.

Class war tears Labour apart
How the SDP won control of Islington

By Ian Bradley

It is no coincidence that Islington should become the first local authority to come under the Social Democratic Party's control. The Labour Party in the London borough has been split down the middle in a way that demonstrates in particularly acute form the party's difficulties nationally.

The troubled position of the Islington Labour Party derives from the nature of the borough which, until the rise of the SDP, has effectively been a one-party state. After the last borough election in 1978 the council had 50 Labour members and only two Conservatives providing the opposition. As a result, political debate effectively took place within the Labour group which encompassed a broad spectrum of opinion.

It was divided into two main factions. The larger one, which has defected en masse to the SDP, is made up of predominantly working-class, middle-aged councillors, locally born and bred, who are conservative in their outlook and policies.

The "opposition", the remaining Labour group on the council, is younger and formed of middle-class socialists who moved into Islington with the "gentrification" of Islington in the 1960s and 1970s.

Before the defections to the SDP, which began in March, there was friction between the groups. The former accuse the latter of a campaign of infiltration and "entrapment" that has gradually led to left-wing control of Islington's three constituency Labour parties.

Mr James Evans, last year's mayor of the borough and one of the first Islington councillors to defect to the SDP, says: "We used to have a lot of old people come to Labour Party meetings. They had come for years although they did not always have the education to put over their views. The middle-class student types laughed at them and mocked them, and so they did not want to come."

In the old days we had meetings and then went off to the pub afterwards. These new people started coming in with sandwiches and flasks and the meetings went on until two or three in the morning."

The younger, middle-class element sees the councillors who form the SDP group as a reactionary clique who have consistently obstructed proposed reforms and progressive measures in the town hall.

Mrs Margaret Watson, deputy leader of the Labour group, says: "The old group are not very bright. They are also

very right wing even in Tony terms. They have cut the housing programme, the grants to voluntary organisations, and the provision for under-fives."

Each side has accused the other of flouting party rules and of "fixing" key meetings. In the Islington North party, for example, the left is accused of bringing people in a minibus from Haringey to vote, while the right is charged with packing meetings with "false" delegates from the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The balance between the factions has swung over the past 10 years. In 1978, the "Irish old guard" regained control of the North. Since then the left has increased its hold on the three constituency parties.

Last month, Mr John Grant, MP for Islington Central, announced his defection to the SDP. On Monday, Mr George Cunningham, Mr John Hanning, Mr South, and Mr Finsbury, because the borough's third MP to resign from the Labour Party.

The scale of the defections to the SDP in Islington could serve to highlight serious differences within the local SDP. It is not too much to say that the division that hurt the Labour Party is reproducing itself in the Islington SDP.

Brixton raid police are cleared

By David Nicholson-Lord

Police officers accused of leading a trail of unnecessary damage behind them in a search for petrol bombs in Brixton after the summer riots are not to be prosecuted, it was disclosed yesterday.

The verdicts about a dozen houses in Rye Hill Road, known as the front line, took place in July and led to widespread protests. But after an investigation and report by Mr Geoffrey Dear, deputy assistant commissioner, the Director of Public Prosecutions has decided against prosecuting any of the officers involved.

The announcement produced an angry reaction in Brixton. Mr Rose, Webb, director of the Melting Pot Foundation on Rye Hill Road, who visited the houses soon after the raid, said that many people, especially those whose houses were affected, would be terribly upset.

Scotland Yard said internal disciplinary proceedings against the officers would now be considered. But it also said Mr Dear's report showed that many householders had claimed for damages not caused by police.

A spokesman said: "The investigation produced evidence that people other than police entered the addresses concerned. After police had gone, some property was damaged. We have not been able to pinpoint the individuals concerned."

The police had nevertheless met claims for damage not caused by them in the hundreds of community relations, he said.

Although residents said the police had been deliberately heavy-handed in the raids, only one officer's complaint was received, the police said. But the investigation took in all the houses raided.



Rubens for the Courtauld Institute

A detail from the Rubens masterpiece *Landscape by Moonlight*, which is to be purchased for the Courtauld Institute of the University of London through contributions from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Victoria and Albert Museum. The price is undisclosed, but the painting, part of the Princes Gate

Collection of Count Antoine Seilern, is thought to be worth about £1m. Death duties necessitated its sale. The purchase, announced by Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, in Parliament on Monday, will enable the Courtauld to keep the Seilern collection intact.

Classrooms closed by cuts march

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

About two-thirds of inner London's schools and colleges closed yesterday afternoon as about 15,000 teachers, parents, other educational staff and parents took to the streets to protest against predicted cuts of at least £100m in London's education budget next year.

The Inner London Education Authority has fortified its entire government grant of £125m this year because its planned expenditure of £700m is 50 per cent higher than its guaranteed expenditure, or what the Government assesses it would need to spend in order to provide a "standard" level of service.

This year, it has been able to make good that loss of grant by increasing the rates. Next year, however, it fears that it will be prevented from doing so as a result of the measures in the Government's Local Government Finance Bill, by which the Government intends to curb high-spending authorities such as the ILA.

At a press conference preceding yesterday's march, Mr Robert Richardson, general secretary of the Inner London Teachers' Association, said that they believed it was the ILA's duty to "clash the ILA's budget by a sixth. A cut of that order would mean the loss of about 3,500 teachers and a similar number of other staff."

"There is a sense of anger that, having decided not to break up the ILA last year, the Government is now seeking to strangle that authority by cutting off its resources," he said.

Even if the authority abolished all nursery education, the maintenance of youth service, and the whole of the school meals and milk service, the savings would still not add up to what was required. All the services would have to be cut and standards would inevitably fall sharply.

Mr David Treisman, general secretary of the Inner London region of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (NATFHE), said that they believed London's entire adult education service would go, at least one of London's five polytechnics would be closed, and important departments in other polytechnics and colleges would close.

Later, at a rally in Westminster, Mr Malcolm Lee, national president of NATFHE, said that thousands of applicants for places in polytechnics and other colleges throughout the country would be disappointed next year.

Union leaders will meet Tebbit on labour law

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Union leaders are to take up an invitation from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, for talks on his proposed Bill on labour law reform, to be introduced in the new year.

They will reject outright his plan to put union funds at risk over industrial action, arguing that his ideas "could hardly be more dangerous."

The TUC Employment Policy and Organisation Committee yesterday endorsed a confidential policy paper which insists that the Cabinet's proposals "strike at the very heart of industrial freedom."

Union leaders are drawing up a counter-response to the Government's policies to be officially endorsed at a meeting on December 16 and then put to ministers as the basis of organized labour's position.

Meanwhile the unions are planning a campaign to alert union officials and activists to the implications of the government proposals and to mobilize the labour movement in opposition.

While this militant position will be publicly stated, Mr Tebbit will hope to change Mr Tebbit's mind. Some of the proposals in his discussion document are only "under consideration", the TUC document says.

Moreover, there are some signs that employers and sections of the Conservative Party are becoming sceptical about further legislation, and that the legislation may be changed as a result of vigorous campaigning and lobbying.

However, fearing the worst, the TUC is organizing a special conference of trade union national officers early in the new year to determine the next phase of its opposition campaign to the labour law package.

But political moves are already under way to try to frustrate Mr Tebbit's will, but with Labour's front bench and

Thames launches equality for women project

By Kenneth Gossing

An investigation into opportunities for women is being launched by Thames, one of the "big five" independent television companies, after an approach by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The scheme, to be known as a positive action project, will begin in the new year, and Thames is understood to be the first television company in Britain to adopt a policy of positive action in favour of women.

Thames's decision to undertake the project, in agreement with the Commission and the National Council for Civil Liberties, comes in the wake of a report prepared by Miss Sadie Roberts, a barrister for the NCCL.

Thames's programme will include appointing an executive director to form a special committee, introducing training courses on equal opportunities, developing a code of practice for interviewing, and providing more detailed monitoring of women's positions within the company.

Thatcher promises museum grant rise

Accused by Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, of taking a barbaric approach to the funding of the national museums, Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday assured the Commons that there would be a bigger increase in the grant next year than in 1981-82.

She reminded MPs that the present grant for museums was 7 to 8 per cent above that for 1980-81.

Mr Foot, alarmed by a warning on Monday by Dr David Wilson, director of the British Museum, that it would have to close if the Government did not increase its funding, said that he knew the barbarians on the Conservative benches were not interested in such things.

Leading article, page 11

Science report
New test to detect blood disease

By Our Medical Correspondent

A child born with the genetic disorder thalassaemia has a grim outlook. Even with the best medical treatment the severe anaemia will stunt growth; the heart, liver and spleen become enlarged, and chronic invalidism ends in early death.

In many Mediterranean countries as many as 10 per cent of the population are carriers of the disease, and when two carriers marry, one in four of their children will have thalassaemia.

In 1975 techniques were developed for diagnosing thalassaemia in the fetus in early pregnancy so that the parents could choose to have the pregnancy terminated. An unofficial registry is being maintained at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, and so far 1,705 tests have been carried out in London, Athens, Sardinia, Paris, Munich and other cities.

A combination of screening and counselling adults for the carrier state and testing in pregnancy has dramatically reduced the numbers of infants with thalassaemia born in the Cypriot community both in London and in Cyprus, where only a quarter of the expected total were born in 1979.

Nevertheless, the tests on the fetus in early pregnancy (and other haemoglobin disorders such as sickle cell disease) cannot be carried out until the eighteenth to twentieth week of pregnancy, termination at that stage carries physical risks for the mother and is also more emotionally distressing.

A new technique that may make diagnosis possible much earlier in pregnancy is being studied at St Mary's Hospital and University College Hospital, London.

Instead of waiting until the fetus is big enough for a blood sample to be taken, the new method relies on direct analysis of the DNA, the genetic code, in cells taken from the chorionic villi in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Tests in women having terminations early in pregnancy for other reasons have shown that the technique works, what remains to be established is whether early in pregnancy small samples of the chorion will can be removed without risk to the mother or to the pregnancy.

The DNA analysis takes 11 days. So with early recognition of pregnancy and early medical referral for testing, termination could be advanced to the tenth to twelfth week of pregnancy, making the procedure simpler, cheaper, safer and less distressing.

Source: *Lancet* (November 21, p. 1,125).

Victory for arts over Treasury

A small victory for the deans of the arts against the Treasury was marked yesterday by the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts when the Government came to its decision to withdraw financial support from the national Centre for the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property in Rome (Our Political Staff writes).

The £39,000 involved was only a fraction of the £1.2m annual British contribution to Unesco. But the select committee received many representations from people who were concerned that it was an international centre for the exchange of information and research in the whole field of conservation.

A joint statement from the Ministers for Overseas Development (the payment was made under this heading) and the Minister for the Arts, released yesterday, said British withdrawal "would cause considerable anxiety internationally and could weaken the effectiveness of the organization."

Parliamentary report, page 4



"Excuse me, I'm here for the conference in the west wing"

Our new hotel is four minutes' walk through a covered walkway to Gatwick's main terminal. Although with our incredible soundproofing and exotic greenery, you'd never know it.

So whether it's cocktails for two or a conference for 400, you get the luxury of Hilton and the convenience of Gatwick under one roof. Ring us on (0293) 518080. It comes complete with airport.

Gatwick Hilton International.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Charge of murder dropped

A charge of murder against a German businessman accused of strangling his wife was dropped yesterday.

The move came in the sixth day of the "Waterloo Down" murder trial at Winchester Crown Court, when the judge told the jury to disregard the murder charge against Ulf Hirsch, aged 43, of Braintree, Essex.

The trial will continue with Mr Hirsch facing the lesser charge of manslaughter.

The body of Jeanette Hirsch, aged 28, was found on Waterloo Down, a Hampshire beauty spot, six years ago.

Air fares to Hongkong up

Economy fares to Hongkong go up by about a tenth from March. But at least one airline, British Caledonian, is reducing its first-class fares by the same amount from January (Our Transport correspondent writes). Fares to Hongkong collapsed last year when the Civil Aviation Authority broke British Airways' monopoly by allowing British Caledonian and Cathay Pacific to join the route, but have been creeping up since.

Town moves V2 driver

Residents of Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, asked Mr David Oakley, lorry driver, to leave town when he arrived in the market square with his 46ft-long load, a German V2 rocket. When the police switchboard was jammed with more complaints, he was advised to take his load to a lay-by half a mile away.

Mr Oakley was transporting the 36-year-old rocket from Cranfield Institute of Technology to the Science Museum's airfield site in Wroughton, near Swindon, Wiltshire.

Liza Goddard's quiet wedding



Liza Goddard, aged 31, the actress (above), and Alvin Stardust, aged 37, the singer, were married yesterday, five weeks after the birth of their daughter.

The only guests at Wood Green Register Office, north London, were Miss Goddard's son Tom, aged five, by her previous marriage, the baby's nanny, and a freelance photographer.

Fireman trapped in test mishap

A rescue exercise turned into a real emergency yesterday when an RAF helicopter had to rescue a fireman trapped to his chest in mud at Sheerness, on the Isle of Sheppey, Kent.

Local firemen were demonstrating new equipment designed to speed rescues in quicksand and mud when Mr Terry Hughes, aged 20, a part-time fireman who had volunteered to be half buried in mud, became trapped.

£7,042 compensation

Garry Ralston, aged 22, and Paul Nicholls, aged 21, both of Manchester, who were dismissed as garage mechanics for allegedly stealing 25p worth of waste diesel oil, were awarded compensation of £3,612 and £3,430 respectively by an industrial tribunal in Manchester yesterday.

Jail overcrowding

Measures aimed at cutting prison overcrowding will be disclosed by prison governors after the annual meeting of the Society of Civil and Public Servants' governors' branch today. Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, was given the proposals at a meeting last night.

Holly prices soar

Keen bidding at the annual sale of holly, mistletoe, and Christmas trees at Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester, yesterday, sent holly prices to £50 a hundredweight for the best varieties, well up on last year's figure.

Major dies after run

Major Richard Wilkinson, aged 37, collapsed while running in a fitness test in Windsor Great Park, yesterday, and died last night. He was second in command of the Blues and Royals.

Three schoolboy torturers get 32 years in jail

Three schoolboys who preyed on old people in east London were sentenced to a total of 32 years' detention by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

One victim, a widow aged 85, died. Another widow had a narrow escape from death.

Sentencing the boys, now aged 15, the Common Sergeant, Judge Tudor Price, told them that their conduct was callous and merciless in the extreme.

"In each case all of you showed total indifference to the suffering of your victims, the experience of which is likely to remain in their thoughts as long as they live," he added. "Anyone of any age who attacks old people in order to rob them can expect heavy sentences from the court."

George Vinyard, of Malcom Road, Mile End, east London, received 12 years, and Simon Marius, of Lang Street, Mile End, and Graham Hunt, of Hackney Road, Bethnal Green, east London, were sentenced to 10 years.

They had all been found guilty by a jury, by a ten-to-two majority, of the manslaughter of Mrs Rose Daniels, aged 85, at her council flat in Summit Estate, Clapton Common, Clapton, in May. They were acquitted of her murder.

The boys pleaded guilty to robbing her and further admitted robbing Mrs Deborah Silver, aged 77, at her home in Stepney, of rings, watches, cash, and other articles. Simon Marius and George Vinyard admitted also robbing Mrs Ellen Roff, aged 68, of watches, a silver pendant, cash, and a Coronation crown, at her home in Bethnal Green.

Graham Hunt and George Vinyard also admitted robbing Miss Emily O'Shea, aged 67, of watches, a medalion, and cash at her home in Limehouse. They further admitted robbing Mr Abraham Diamond, aged 74, of £6 as he took a lift to his flat in Limehouse.

Police plan for 24-hour Toxteth foot patrol

From John Chartres, Liverpool

A new system of policing the still sensitive and disturbed Toxteth area of Liverpool is to be put to community leaders on December 14 at a meeting chaired by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, Mgr Derek Worlock. Rival community relations organisations will be invited to attend.

That was announced by Chief Constable of Merseyside, Mr Kenneth Oxford, at a meeting of the county police committee yesterday.

Mr Oxford's plan in line with suggestions in the Scarman Commission report involves the creation of a Toxteth sector of his force under the command of a chief inspector, with police in pairs patrolling on foot 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The policeman and police-women, who will include trained community liaison officers and plainclothes detectives, posted to the new sector will remain on it for long periods to maintain continuity. Mr Oxford said: "I want to build the sort of rapport of yesterday-year between the policeman on the beat and the community."

"This will be real grass-roots policing. I hope to make it 'sacrosanct' and none of the officers involved will be diverted unnecessarily to other duties or training courses."

He said that he hoped to improve the status of the policeman on the beat in recruiting, advertising and publicity. There was a tendency to debate that type of work with too many ambitious young recruits waiting quickly to become motorcyclists or detectives.

Lady Simey, chairman of the committee, who has had discussions with Mr Oxford, promised the Chief Constable of her support and that of the authority.

The committee also discussed a report on events since the Toxteth riots of last May in the light of the Scarman report.

A resolution carried in spite of opposition from the Conservative minority placed on record, however, the committee's abhorrence of the use in policing of any form of paramilitary equipment such as CS gas, water cannon, or armoured vehicles.

The resolution requested the Chief Constable to ensure that it would never be necessary to have such equipment deployed on Merseyside.

Mr Oxford said that was asking for Utopia. "I go along with abhorrence of the use of such equipment, but I have not got the sort of crystal ball to be able to ensure that it will never be needed again."

"I am not too sure either whether it escalates or contains street violence."

Mrs Daniels was thrown to the floor where she was bound hand and foot and tightly gagged. Fighting for breath, she was bundled into a brown cupboard and left to suffocate to death.

Mrs O'Shea was also in her flat tied up and her television set was smashed with a hammer to make her tell where her money, a few pounds, was kept. The raiders took that and ripped a gold medalion from her neck before fleeing.

Mr Diamond was attacked on a lift at his block of flats and forced to hand over £6. He was so shocked by the ordeal that afterwards he refused to open the door to anyone, including the police.

Mrs Silver almost suffered the same fate as Mrs Daniels. The boys forced their way into her flat, where she was handcuffed, a black cloth was put over her head and a cord tied round her neck.

They pelted her with eggs from the kitchen, fastened a chain from her neck, tore the rings from her fingers, and took £20 from her purse and £8 from a meter. They then locked her in a small kitchen cupboard from which she was later rescued.

The Government is to mount an attack on the number of officials in the top three grades of the Civil Service in an attempt to undo part of an explosion in senior Whitehall establishments that took place under the Wilson and Heath administrations.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the Treasury announced yesterday that all 742 posts at secretary level and above would be examined to see if their continued existence were justified. Senior officers in the Armed Forces would also be scrutinized.

The announcement was made in a speech with the publication of a review of the chain of command at the summit of the Whitehall hierarchy undertaken by Sir Geoffrey Wardale, former Second Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

He recommended that all three ranks of permanent, deputy, and under-secretary should be retained, but insisted that "each job should have a firm, tangible core of its own."

"Ministers and the community will be better served if all jobs are real with a challenging but attainable contribution expected from each one. Such clarity should actually reduce the total quantity of work to be done, though not the results achieved from it," Sir Geoffrey found.

The Government had trimmed the number on the top three grades from the 822 officials it inherited on May 1979, to 742 by October 1, this year a cut of 10.6 per cent. Each department is now required to submit the results of its scrutiny of senior men to the Treasury by next March 31, when ministers will decide where further reductions are to fall.

The Association of First Division Civil Servants, which represents senior officials, welcomed Sir Geoffrey's recommendation that no grade should be abolished.

Top-grade civil servants face tough jobs scrutiny

By Peter Hennessy

The Government is to mount an attack on the number of officials in the top three grades of the Civil Service in an attempt to undo part of an explosion in senior Whitehall establishments that took place under the Wilson and Heath administrations.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the Treasury announced yesterday that all 742 posts at secretary level and above would be examined to see if their continued existence were justified. Senior officers in the Armed Forces would also be scrutinized.

The announcement was made in a speech with the publication of a review of the chain of command at the summit of the Whitehall hierarchy undertaken by Sir Geoffrey Wardale, former Second Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

He recommended that all three ranks of permanent, deputy, and under-secretary should be retained, but insisted that "each job should have a firm, tangible core of its own."

"Ministers and the community will be better served if all jobs are real with a challenging but attainable contribution expected from each one. Such clarity should actually reduce the total quantity of work to be done, though not the results achieved from it," Sir Geoffrey found.

The Government had trimmed the number on the top three grades from the 822 officials it inherited on May 1979, to 742 by October 1, this year a cut of 10.6 per cent. Each department is now required to submit the results of its scrutiny of senior men to the Treasury by next March 31, when ministers will decide where further reductions are to fall.

The Association of First Division Civil Servants, which represents senior officials, welcomed Sir Geoffrey's recommendation that no grade should be abolished.

Retrial for death case driver

A complaint about newspaper headlines led yesterday to a judge's ordering the retrial of a man who has denied causing the death by dangerous driving of Donald Ranger, managing director of the Heron Motor Corporation.

Dismissing the jury on the second day of the case at Kingston Crown Court, Surrey, Judge Rubin said of newspaper coverage: "Some of these reports contain headlines of a very prejudicial nature like 'Death race' and 'Horror race', although my personal view is that this is very much a borderline case."

Mr Barry Hudson, QC, representing Ricardo di Tommaso, aged 39, of Mulberry Trees, Shepperton, Middlesex, told the judge that reporting of the first day of the trial was factually correct, but headlines describing the way Mr Ranger died had been emotive, dramatic, and inaccurate.

He said: "The Daily Express has a dramatic headline 'Film stars accused over 120mph race of death'. Apart from the Mail and the Express, The Times has 'Car race ended in death'."

There is an even worse headline in The Sun on page five describing a "120mph horror race" which goes further than the 'death race' of the Express and the Mail."

Mr Hudson said he was certain that the majority of the jury would have read the headlines which, because of their emotive nature, had distorted the case. They might have discussed the case with their spouses at the breakfast table and "there might be a gut reaction to these headlines."

The judge said that as it was a short case where such things would remain fresh in the memory he would order a retrial "sometime next term when memories of these headlines have disappeared."

Mr Di Tommaso had his unconditional bail renewed.

£3,000 for a victim of the Ripper

A woman who survived an attack by the Yorkshire Ripper was awarded £3,000 interim compensation by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board in Leeds yesterday.

Miss Marcella Claxton, aged 25, of Sholebrooke Avenue, Chapelthorpe, Leeds, was hit over the head with a hammer eight or nine times in May, 1976.

Her original application in 1978 was refused on the basis of her way of life, and that she had "clearly misled the police and provoked the attack."

Her appeal against that decision yesterday came after the conviction of Peter William Sutcliffe, who murdered 13 women attempted to murder.

The hearing at Leeds Town Hall was held in camera, but a spokesman for Miss Claxton's solicitors said afterwards that the board had upheld the appeal after hearing fresh evidence and argument, including evidence from the officer who interviewed Mr Sutcliffe, who pleaded guilty to Miss Claxton's attempted murder.

Miss Claxton, who denies that she was ever a prostitute, said after yesterday's hearing: "I am happy with the decision."

Chess leaders pull away

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

Hebden and Westernen are drawing away from the rest of the fields in the Lewisham International tournament at Catford. Both won their games in the seventh round yesterday. Westernen steadily outplayed his fellow grandmaster, Kuligowski, and Hebden efficiently disposing of the Spaniard, Leontxo-Garcia. By winning that game, Hebden attained the international master norm.

The most striking result of the round was the victory of

GLC blind to facts on fares, QC says

By Frances Gibb

The Greater London Council's decision to go ahead with its cheaper fares scheme in "deliberate defiance of the facts" was perverse and unlawful, Mr David Widdicombe, QC, told the Law Lords yesterday.

Mr Widdicombe said that the council had asked its officials to provide information on what the effects might be of levying an extra rate to pay for a cut of one quarter in Underground and bus fares.

But it had then brushed aside those relevant factors, Mr Widdicombe said. The ruling Labour group on the council appeared to have been "blind and deaf to what their officers put before them. It is perverse to say that a fares reduction will have a substantial effect on passenger traffic and traffic congestion when you have been told it will do nothing of the kind."

Mr Widdicombe was making his submission to the London Borough of Bromley on the fifth day of the appeal by the GLC before Lord Wilberforce (presiding), Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kin-



The child's horror of bath time: Reuben, Bristol Zoo's one-year-old gorilla, takes on an almost human expression in the tub, wrinkling up his face as he is soaped down by Mr Mike Colbourne, his keeper.

GLC blind to facts on fares, QC says

By Frances Gibb

The Greater London Council's decision to go ahead with its cheaper fares scheme in "deliberate defiance of the facts" was perverse and unlawful, Mr David Widdicombe, QC, told the Law Lords yesterday.

Mr Widdicombe said that the council had asked its officials to provide information on what the effects might be of levying an extra rate to pay for a cut of one quarter in Underground and bus fares.

But it had then brushed aside those relevant factors, Mr Widdicombe said. The ruling Labour group on the council appeared to have been "blind and deaf to what their officers put before them. It is perverse to say that a fares reduction will have a substantial effect on passenger traffic and traffic congestion when you have been told it will do nothing of the kind."

Mr Widdicombe was making his submission to the London Borough of Bromley on the fifth day of the appeal by the GLC before Lord Wilberforce (presiding), Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kin-

Slimming case doctor accused

By Frances Gibb

A woman's addiction to a slimming drug turned her into an alcoholic, it was said yesterday. The General Medical Council's professional conduct committee was told that she also lost jobs, took an overdose, lost her home, and was convicted for shoplifting because of the drug.

The committee was considering a charge of serious professional misconduct against Dr Zakaria Mohammed Asfoury, whose address was registered Devonshire Place, Westminster. He was alleged to have abused his professional position by supplying Dexamphetamine repeatedly in return for fees without adequately examining the patients, without making inquiries about their physical and mental health, or about the effect on them of the treatment.

Mr Stephen O'Malley, for the council, said Mrs Sally Langley, of King's Hall Road, Beckenham, Kent, lost four and a half stone in six months, but the treatment was continued for five years.

The hearing continues today.

Mother and son fined for vice conspiracy

The son of Mrs Rosetta Simpson went "from rags to riches" in three years from the proceeds of her huge prostitution racket, a court heard yesterday.

Christopher Simpson let his mother's massage agency use his respectable businesses as a front. He also obtained suitable premises for her, the court was told, interviewed girls, and was responsible for advertising the agency in pornographic magazines.

Mr Lionel Lassman, for the prosecution, told Knightsbridge Crown Court that in 1975 Mr Simpson was living in a furnished room in Earls Court paying £12 a week rent. In 1978 he bought a house in Stag Lane, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, for £45,000.

"Christopher Simpson, starting from modest means, went from rags to riches in three years," Mr Lassman said.

Simpson, 29, of Old Marylebone Road, Marylebone, London, was fined £40,000 and ordered to pay £1,000 costs after he admitted conspiring with his mother and others to live on the immoral earnings of prostitution. Mrs Simpson, aged 54, of Grove Hill, Woodford, Essex, was fined £5,000 and ordered to pay £5,000 costs after she was found guilty on Monday of conspiring to control the movements of prostitutes.

The court heard that Mrs Simpson's massage agency employed 40 girls. They were equipped with hipsters to summon them to top hotels, including the Savoy and the Waldorf, at all hours.

Mr Lassman estimated that the firm made £100,000 a year profit from girls' having sexual intercourse with their clients.

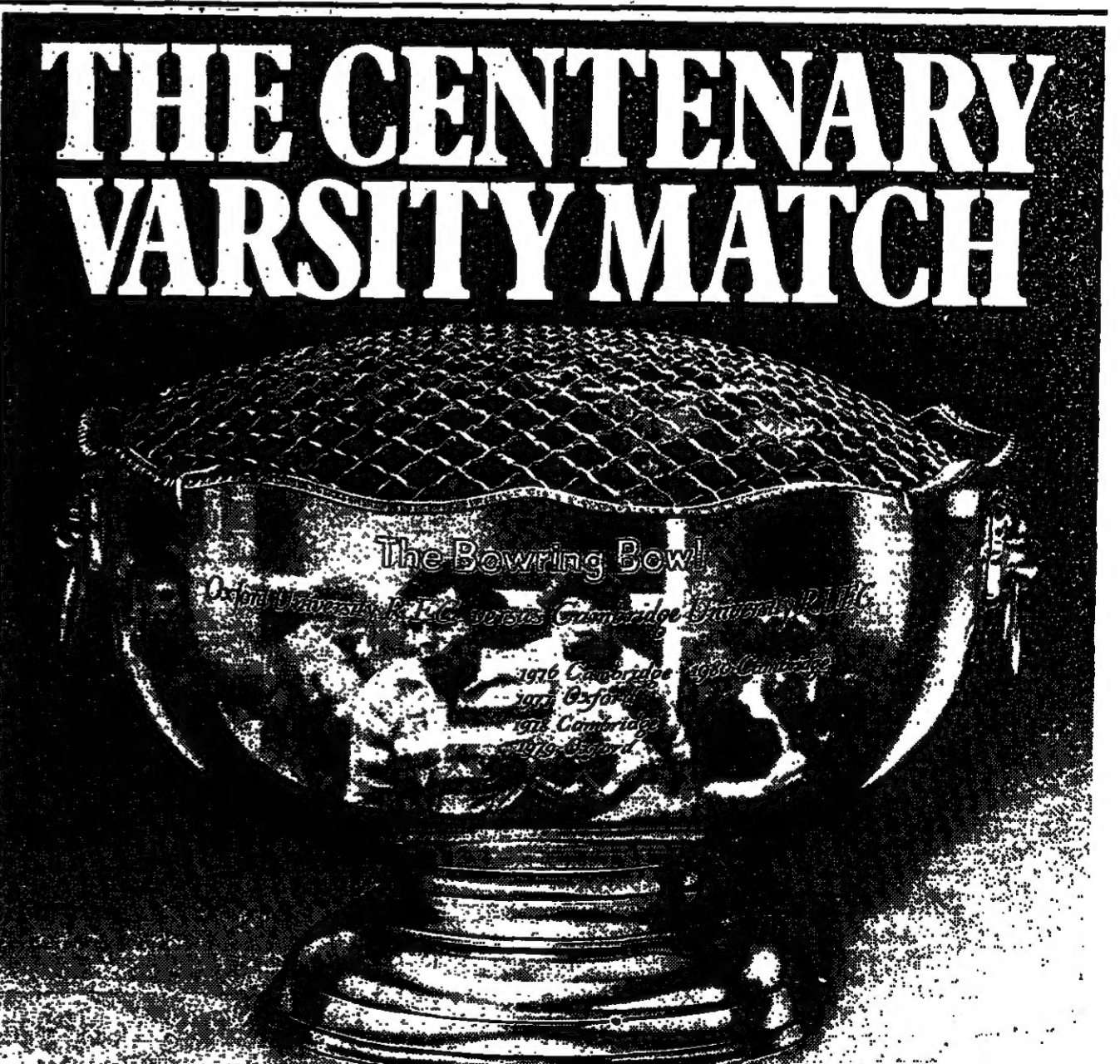
The women, aged between 23 and 33, came from all over the world and most operated under false names such as Kitten, Angel, Mandy and Lady Jane.

The ring, one of the largest ever found in London, was uncovered by the police when they raided Mrs Simpson's premises in 1979 after a two-year investigation.

Mr Lassman said substantial receipts from prostitution went into bank accounts Mr Simpson had established.

He said cheques worth £130,000 passed through belonging to a bogus restaurant company. The agency also received big cash payments which were absorbed into other accounts.

At one stage the agency was using a credit card facility for customers.



THE CENTENARY VARSITY MATCH

When it comes to the Varsity Match we're its staunchest supporters

Every year, we sponsor this popular event and award The Bowring Bowl — the symbol of our sponsorship, to the winners. This year is something special — the celebration of its Centenary. Just as there are winners in sport, there are winners in industry. And The Bowring Group is acclaimed world-wide for its skill and performance in insurance and reinsurance broking plus insurance underwriting, credit finance and leasing, trading and engineering. It's a challenging business, and like the teams, we sponsor, we're out to win.

Bowring

CT Bowring & Co Limited
The Bowring Building Tower Place London EC3P 3BE
Tel: 01-263 3100 Telex: 882191
A member of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

PARLIAMENT December 1 1981

MPs want TV, fee concession for pensioners

BBC FINANCES

The decision to increase the fee for a colour television licence from £24 to £46 and for a black and white TV licence from £12 to £13 was announced by Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, in a statement to the Commons. The new fees would, he said, come into effect at midnight, and should last for at least three years.

Mr Whitelaw, indicating that he had laid the necessary regulations bringing the new fees into force, said the BBC had applied for an increase in the colour licence fee to about £20 to last for three years. In considering that, it was his duty to ensure that the Corporation's licence fees were adequately funded and at the same time to ensure that the increase was fair to the licence fee payer.

In announcing the increases, Mr Whitelaw said he would be making it clear to the BBC that he would expect it to pay off its current deficit and live within the revenue which these new levels of fees would produce until the end of the 1985 financial year. My purpose in deciding on the increase to last for at least three years (he continued) is to make the licence fee system work as it should.

It is also my aim to fix the level of fees for a period which will enable the Corporation to plan ahead more effectively. A three year increase will require considerable financial discipline on the part of the Corporation; and the extent to which it will be able to pursue its plans for new or improved services will depend crucially on its ability to keep down its costs, particularly labour costs.

In this context the board of governors has announced that it has commissioned a study of the review of the systems by which the BBC monitors its efficiency. I welcome this decision, which indicates how serious the board of governors take their responsibility for ensuring that the licence fee paying public get an efficient service and value for money.

I recognize that it is not easy for some people to find the licence fee in a single sum each year. I therefore intend to provide a range of means to enable members of the public who wish to do so to spread the cost of the licence fee over the year.

To supplement the successful and widely-used television saving stamps scheme, I am considering plans for the introduction of payments by instalments.

We propose in the course of next summer to start accepting monthly instalments towards the following year's licence fee by means of direct debit from bank accounts, and to introduce at least a pilot scheme for payment by credit cards.

This will be followed, I hope by the introduction in 1983, of a scheme for the payment of monthly cash instalments over post office counters towards the following year's fee.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab): We believe the BBC should be financed in a way that preserves its independence and enables it to maintain the high level of its programmes. We also agree that income of the sort the Government proposes is necessary and it should be obtained by means of licence fee.

However, a television licence fee of £46 will bear particularly heavily on some members of the public, particularly retired pensioners. The fact that the increase will be reflected in the retail price index is really of no comfort to those who are not fully employed. It is not the cost of living, nor will the availability of easy payment schemes be of much benefit to pensioners. It is, in fact, contrary to what has been said, possess credit cards and all of whom will be required to pay considerable financial discipline this year in advance of receipt of programmes.

Therefore we will not support the proposed increase unless a sort of concession is made for retired pensioners and the chronically sick.

May I suggest one means of raising compensating revenue for that purpose? It is absurd that, let us say, the Savoy hotel with hundreds of television sets used for commercial purposes should pay the same fee as a single pensioner. Should there not be a separate fee for commercial use, separate from and higher than the domestic licence, and should it not be levied on every set in commercial use?

Mr Whitelaw: I am glad to hear him accept that the licence fee is the best method of financing the BBC. I accept that it is a considerable anxiety with regard to them, so the easy payment scheme which I have proposed will be a help to pensioners and should be helpful because a very large proportion of the television licence



Ashley and Morrison: More subtitled programmes wanted

are now taken out by this method and that shows it is valuable and worth while.

As to the hotels, I accept this problem. We had a working party on the problem which recommended that hotels should pay more. I am prepared to consider how best to implement that proposal.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, Lib): Why can we not have a scheme of paying by instalment for current licence fee to help pensioners? It is desirable to give the BBC three years' freedom from having to go to the Government, is not the Government going to have to do better to control inflation for the scheme to work?

Mr Whitelaw: In finding the licence fee it is important to decide on a large number of different assumptions. That has been done. The figure meets the need for the BBC to produce its programmes and to produce in the country who pay the fee.

As for pensioners, I thought I had produced a concession which would help. I am prepared to consider any others that fall within the instalments scheme.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab): Would be consider allocating a small proportion of the licence fee specifically for the subsidizing of television programmes for deaf people?

Mr Whitelaw: I believe the BBC have made considerable efforts for deaf people. I know they wish to do more, but will certainly seek to do so.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West, Staffordshire, C): There would be enormous support in the country for a concessionary scheme for pensioners even if it meant the rest of us having to pay slightly more than £46.

Mr Whitelaw: I accept that entirely, but he has to appreciate some of the problems involved. If we were to give a concession to pensioners, households a

colour television licence would have to rise to £70.

Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C): There are more deaf people in the country than Welsh people. Does he not think even greater regard should be given to the needs of deaf people?

Mr Whitelaw: The BBC have gone a long way to deal with the problems of deaf people. I hope they will be able to go further.

The licence fee was also fixed in consideration of what the BBC will be able to do in Wales with Welsh programmes.

Mr Barry Sheerman (Buddfield, East, Lab): Many people feel he has missed an opportunity to take the licence fee out of the political arena. Yet again many people will see political implications of the BBC's fee.

Mr Whitelaw: I would have thought by setting the clear position that the BBC for three years ahead we would be doing the exact opposite of what he said.

Mr Edward Lyons (Bradford, West, SDP): Since black and white sets are largely in the hands of the poorer sections of the community would he freeze the fee for these sets instead of increasing it?

Mr Whitelaw: I think that the increase in the monochrome set fee would be regarded as very reasonable.

Mr Ian Mearns (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, Lab): One of the concessions he has offered today will be to exempt the licence fee for the 100,000 sets in the east end of London who have Diners' Club credit cards. (Laughter.)

Mr Whitelaw: I enjoy such a smile remarks. There are many people, even pensioners, who may wish to pay their fees in instalments. I am prepared to consider a variety of ways to pay the licence fee and I do not see why they should be open to satire.

Hostile reaction to heavier lorries

TRANSPORT

MPs from both sides joined in protest at the announcement by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, that the maximum permitted lorry weight was to be raised to 34 tonnes for four-axle vehicles and 40 tonnes for five-axle vehicles.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C) gave advance warning that he would oppose the new regulations when they came before the House.

Mr Howell said: The effect of the new regulations will be to allow more lorries to be used in the country, which will mean a better environment as well as a healthier economy.

Government measures to achieve the objective were set out in a White Paper published today. These measures are directed to keeping lorries out of the places where people live, through provision of more by-passes; to making the vehicles quieter and to making them safer.

Mr Howell: I do not accept his interpretation. The proposals in the White Paper make clear that we have taken the power to prepare for the new regulations and to go that way, so there is no question of ducking that.

Mr Booth has got the concession that the lorries will not be totally wrong. There is a major advance here within our grasp for the environment. The new regulations will be a big step forward in many of our towns and villages are likely to be in a better position to deal with the new lorries.

Mr Howell: I do not expect capture. This is the right move in the right direction towards reducing the heavy lorry.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C): Some of us, and certainly myself, are appalled at his statement. (Cheers.) I do not accept that the regulations now proposed are a big step forward.

Mr Howell: The lorry loads are going to be the same. They will be the same heavy lorries as we see on the roads today.

Mr Edward Leadbitter (Barnet, Lab): The House considers that the Secretary of State's proposals today to be a complete betrayal of the protection of the environment. (Cheers.) The new lorry loads will be a damaging, dangerous intrusion into urban areas and to historic buildings and the public safety.

Mr Howell: Leadbitter exaggerates his case. There are strong feelings on this. If there are to be more lorries, there must be a corresponding increase in the number of lorries around, this is a step in the right direction.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Barnet, Lab): I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

to allocate to heavy goods vehicles the higher costs they impose on the public. The new regulations which were outlined by Mr Armstrong.

The minor amelioration which the White Paper indicates of a major problem is a little less than what he cannot hide what is no more than a massive concession to the road freight haulage lobby. Those suffering from the effects of the present heavy lorries will be disappointed and shocked by this announcement.

Mr Howell: I do not accept his interpretation. The proposals in the White Paper make clear that we have taken the power to prepare for the new regulations and to go that way, so there is no question of ducking that.

Mr Booth has got the concession that the lorries will not be totally wrong. There is a major advance here within our grasp for the environment. The new regulations will be a big step forward in many of our towns and villages are likely to be in a better position to deal with the new lorries.

Mr Howell: I do not expect capture. This is the right move in the right direction towards reducing the heavy lorry.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C): Some of us, and certainly myself, are appalled at his statement. (Cheers.) I do not accept that the regulations now proposed are a big step forward.

Mr Howell: The lorry loads are going to be the same. They will be the same heavy lorries as we see on the roads today.

Mr Edward Leadbitter (Barnet, Lab): The House considers that the Secretary of State's proposals today to be a complete betrayal of the protection of the environment. (Cheers.) The new lorry loads will be a damaging, dangerous intrusion into urban areas and to historic buildings and the public safety.

Mr Howell: Leadbitter exaggerates his case. There are strong feelings on this. If there are to be more lorries, there must be a corresponding increase in the number of lorries around, this is a step in the right direction.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Barnet, Lab): I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Mr Howell: I am sure that the regulations on the design of the heavier vehicles to protect roads, bridges and underground services will be a big step forward.

Island airport is to be expanded into a Nato base

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

Expansion of the airport at Sumburgh, on the island of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides into a forward Nato base was approved yesterday by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. The decision met with a hostile reception from the Western Isles Council and other groups opposed to the scheme.

The Rev Donald Macaulay, Convenor of the Western Isles Council, was not surprised by the decision. But he was disappointed that Mr Younger had seen fit to accept the case which the council had presented at the public inquiry should be overruled by a case based on the climate of national defence that had never been examined or debated. Mr Macaulay put the level of compensation the area should receive at £10m.

There was widespread hostility in the Western Isles to the decision (Our Sumburgh Correspondent writes). Mr Angus MacCormack, chairman of the Keep Nato Out Committee, which has been campaigning over the past two years against the proposal, said: "The Secretary of State for Scotland has declared war on the Western Isles. His decision flies in the face of democracy and his much vaunted wish to show humanity to the people of Scotland."

"He is, in effect, thrusting upon the people of Lewis and the Western Isles a living death from constant and pervasive noise and his much vaunted wish to show humanity to the people of Scotland."

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

authority for the area, and Mr Donald Stewart, Scottish Nationalist MP for the Western Isles, who said yesterday that the people who planned and approved the development differed only in degree from the Russians who had authorized the invasion of Afghanistan.

The Rev Donald Macaulay, Convenor of the Western Isles Council, was not surprised by the decision. But he was disappointed that Mr Younger had seen fit to accept the case which the council had presented at the public inquiry should be overruled by a case based on the climate of national defence that had never been examined or debated. Mr Macaulay put the level of compensation the area should receive at £10m.

There was widespread hostility in the Western Isles to the decision (Our Sumburgh Correspondent writes). Mr Angus MacCormack, chairman of the Keep Nato Out Committee, which has been campaigning over the past two years against the proposal, said: "The Secretary of State for Scotland has declared war on the Western Isles. His decision flies in the face of democracy and his much vaunted wish to show humanity to the people of Scotland."

"He is, in effect, thrusting upon the people of Lewis and the Western Isles a living death from constant and pervasive noise and his much vaunted wish to show humanity to the people of Scotland."

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

The objects of the scheme included loss of agricultural land, noise disturbance to wildlife, the risk from accident and the degradation of water supplies. Local people said that the Gaelic culture and way of life would be eroded.

Alternative financing of NHS

PM's QUESTIONS

A working party was looking at alternative methods of financing the National Health Service, Mr Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said when a Labour MP questioned her about a report in *The Guardian* today which said she had asked the Government to scrap the NHS as it was known.

There were now 1,000 more doctors and 21,000 more nurses and midwives than under the last Labour Government, she said. Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, stated there were great suspicions about Government approaches towards the health service.

Mr Foot, holding a copy of *The Times*, referred to a reported statement by the Director of the British Museum that if nothing was changed it would have to close in two years.

Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) asked: Has the Prime Minister had time to read the front page of *The Guardian* this morning concerning the Government's proposal to scrap the NHS as it was known?

Does she recognize that the health service is the most popular public service that we have and that any threat to it is a threat to the basic principles on which it is based would create a revolutionary situation in this country?

Will she therefore give a categorical assurance that not even the would stoop to such sculduggery?

Mr Thatcher: The principle that adequate health care should be provided for all, regardless of their ability to pay must be the foundation of any arrangements for financing the health service. Some time ago, on July 30, 1981, the then Secretary of State (Mr Patrick Jenkin) announced a working party had been set up to look into different methods of financing the health service. (Interruptions.)

It seems that only the minds of Labour MPs are slow to new ideas which are reasonable, even to look at new ideas.

Mr Foot: Since such great suspicions are bound to be aroused about any approach by this Government to the NHS, can Mrs Thatcher give us an assurance that there will be no further proceedings by this committee?

A report appeared in the papers this morning following the statement by the Director of the British Museum to a select committee. (Interruptions.) The Conservatives are not interested in the British Museum; we on this side of the House certainly hear with great alarm that the Director of the British Museum should be saying that if nothing is changed, they would have to close down in two years.

Will Mrs Thatcher give an undertaking that she will intervene today to put a stop to this barbaric nonsense?

Mr Thatcher: The full news of the setting up of the working party was announced last July. It is continuing its work. It will identify possible alternatives to

DES reviewing student union subscriptions

The Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Mr Hamilton said that the Department of Education and Science is reviewing student union subscriptions, Mr Nicholas Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said today.

Over 4,000 in assisted places scheme

EDUCATION

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, repeatedly stated during questions that the cost of educating children under the assisted places scheme was the same as if they were at state schools.

He said that two thirds of the parents sending children to public schools under the scheme were earning less than the average wage.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West, C) asked what was the cost of the scheme in the present financial year in the education of children under the assisted places scheme and what would be the comparable cost if they were educated in the maintained sector.

Mr Boyson: The department expects to pay grants of about £3.2m in this financial year in respect of the 4,185 pupils admitted to assisted places in September.

As for cases like Mr Soden and his unwillingness to pay the fee, it would be a difficult precedent to accept. The assisted places scheme is not to contribute that part of the fee as they regarded as covering other costs, some of which they do not use.

Mr Carlisle: I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one. I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one.

Mr Carlisle: I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one. I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one.

Mr Carlisle: I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one. I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one.

Mr Carlisle: I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one. I am sure that the assisted places scheme is a very valuable one.

Problems with substitute for asbestos

Bridges to suffer most from new 40-tonne lorries

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

After years of nervous hesitation, the Government yesterday finally announced details of its proposal to raise the maximum lorry weight from 32.5 to 40 tonnes. The news was greeted with fury and sadness by environmentalists, and with pleasure and relief by industry.

But the White Paper says that, with other measures to reduce noise and by-pass towns, the effect will be to improve the environment because there will be fewer heavy lorries (69,000 over 32 tonnes instead of 79,000 if no change were made) and to improve the economy by saving about £150m a year.

Because the extra weight will be spread on five axles instead of four, road damage will be reduced 5 per cent, the paper adds.

There is one important exception to that, however: long-span bridges. On these, the White Paper concedes, there could be a "significantly greater loading effect" in the case of a build-up of heavy traffic, including heavy lorries. Work is already in hand to ensure that the Severn Bridge can be used safely by 40-tonners.

Similar work will be carried out on long-span structures throughout the trunk road system, the paper says. Other bridge owners will need to consider if weight restrictions are needed. The effect on bridges generally, however, is said not to be significant.

Four new by-pass schemes, around Quorn and Mountsorrel in Leicestershire, Bockington in Somerset, Iwade in Kent, and Winchester in East Sussex, are added to the programme forthwith.

Seven more, Newport (Shropshire), Wisbech and West Walton, Narborough, Kelsall, Brockworth and Bridport, will get higher priority.

More than half of England's historic towns already have by-passes. So have 215 of the 275 towns a trunk roads with more than 10,000 in population.

By-passes will generally receive a higher priority in line with the recommendations of the Armitage committee.

But another Armitage recommendation, that "section 8 grants", to encourage the transfer of traffic from road to rail be increased, is studiously avoided.

The grants will be continued, the White Paper says, and to help the railways to play their full role the government will aim to ensure that the framework of regulation and taxation puts road and rail on an equal footing.

A start has been made, it notes, in the Transport Act, 1981, basing excise duty on gross weight.

Another Armitage recommendation, for "lorry action areas" meriting special environmental measures where heavy lorry nuisance is particularly bad, is merely accepted as well worth studying. Local authorities and others will be invited to join the study.

Noise levels of heavy lorries will be progressively reduced so that by 1990 the perceived noise coming from new lorries on the road will be half this year's level, and no louder than a modern new car, the paper promises.

Development of a new quiet heavy lorry for the 1990's will be pressed ahead after the successful development of a prototype which, however, has an 8 per cent cost penalty plus a payload penalty.

There will be no general increase in size with the rise in weights, although there could be an increase in the number of drawbar trailer combinations. The 40-tonner will be a metre longer than the 32-tonner, mainly because it has a more spacious cab.

The paper accepts that "the effect of big lorries on people and the communities through which they pass is now a matter of grave public concern, and in many towns and villages where there is no by-pass the effects are intolerable."

The Government is determined to tackle those environmental and social problems vigorously, but at the same time its approach will be essentially practical, bearing in mind the needs of industry in a period of economic revival.

Heavy freight, such as petrol, milk, machinery, and bricks, would be the main area to benefit. ICI stands to gain £16m a year, or 12 per cent of its transport costs.

Lorries, People, and the Environment (Department of Transport, House of Commons Paper 8439; Stationery Office, £1.50).

BR sets a record in passenger safety

The number of deaths in the working of British Rail last year was the lowest since records started nearly a century ago, the Department of Transport said in its annual railway accident report, published today. It shows that no passenger was killed in a railway accident.

The total numbers of deaths, at 69, included railwaymen killed at work and other people who died through misadventure or suicide.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ian McNaughton, chief inspecting officer of railways, reported that the falling trend had been achieved at a time when the life of railway equipment had had to be extended because of economic considerations.

That had added to the difficulties of those whose task it was to maintain and operate the railways in safety. But Mr Malcolm Southgate, British Rail's chief operations manager, issued a warning that while the railways would continue to give priority to investment in safety, "lack of money may inhibit the introduction of facilities that will further improve safety. Where investment is not available, speed restrictions will be imposed rather than allow safety standards to fall."

The report shows that for the first time, the number of reportable train accidents fell below 1,000 to 930.

MP's Bill aimed at unfit meat racket

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

To the excitement of the consumer lobby, which has seen little relevant legislation passed under the present Government, three MPs highly placed in the ballot for private members' Bills have espoused proposals for important reforms of consumer law.

The Bills the MPs will present were introduced yesterday at a press conference organized jointly by the National Consumer Council and the Consumers' Association.

Mr Frederick Willey, Labour MP for Sunderland North, who has top place, will introduce a Supply of Goods and Services Bill, giving people who hire items, buy them in part exchange, or have them supplied as part of a service the same protection as cash shoppers.

His Bill would also define basic rights for consumers when they obtain a service: the work to be performed with reasonable skill and care, within reasonable time and at a reasonable cost where no price has been agreed.

Mr Willey said yesterday: "This bill will not give consumers a host of new rights. It is an attempt to make sense out of nonsense."

Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Haringey, Tottenham, has second place. His Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill follows court cases that have revealed wide-scale racketeering in unfit meat channelled into the food processing industry for human consumption.

Mr Atkinson's Bill would enable Food and Drugs Act offences to be heard in the Crown Court, instead of only in magistrates' courts as at present. The maximum fine would be raised from £100 to £1,000 on summary conviction, or an unlimited amount on indictment, with the further possibility of up to two years' imprisonment.

Mr Atkinson said: "The bill would put meat racketeering into the serious crime league. At present no one can safely say they have not eaten unfit or contaminated meat. I have been astonished by the evidence of how veterinary throw-outs and even cancerous carcasses find their way into the food trade."

Spokesmen for the Institution of Environmental Health Officers and the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, who also support the Bill, said that at present the penalties for describing meat wrongly were heavier than those for selling meat that was unfit and dangerous to health.

The Bill would also extend the time limits for bringing a prosecution from six months to three years.

Mr Atkinson said his Bill went far beyond anything the Government had proposed, but he thought he could count on its support.

The third Bill, to be introduced by Mr Gwyn Roberts, Labour MP for Cannock, would extend the Trade Descriptions Act to estate agents, tour operators, and all businesses providing services.

New hope of clearing Gruinard of anthrax

The Ministry of Defence is reviewing ways of ridding Gruinard Island, the site of Second World War germ warfare tests, of lethal spores of anthrax. The study will be conducted by scientists at the Porton research centre near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

An investigation in 1971 suggested three methods, but they were rejected as too expensive. The costs were estimated at between £3m and £15m at 1971 prices.

Anthrax-infected soil was removed from the island in October by a group of alleged microbiologists, calling themselves "Dark Harvest".

Stolen samples were planted inside the Porton Down perimeter fence, and later at Blackpool, near the venue of the Conservative Party conference.

A spokesman for the ministry, said yesterday: "Our study group is intensively reviewing ways of decontaminating Gruinard Island. Various methods are being studied, and the cost involved."

A survey in 1979 of the one-and-a-half-mile-long island, near Ullapool, Wester Ross, showed that it was still heavily contaminated with anthrax.

The three methods of "cleaning" the island suggested in 1971 were: Stripping of the top layer of soil and dumping it in the Atlantic; neutralizing the spores with steam pressure hoses or chemicals; or bomb bombardment by radiation.



Miss Jeanetta Thomas, who is 112 today. Believed to be the oldest person in Britain, she lives in a home for the elderly at Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, where she will celebrate quietly with friends.

MP's Bill aimed at unfit meat racket

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

To the excitement of the consumer lobby, which has seen little relevant legislation passed under the present Government, three MPs highly placed in the ballot for private members' Bills have espoused proposals for important reforms of consumer law.

The Bills the MPs will present were introduced yesterday at a press conference organized jointly by the National Consumer Council and the Consumers' Association.

Mr Frederick Willey, Labour MP for Sunderland North, who has top place, will introduce a Supply of Goods and Services Bill, giving people who hire items, buy them in part exchange, or have them supplied as part of a service the same protection as cash shoppers.

His Bill would also define basic rights for consumers when they obtain a service: the work to be performed with reasonable skill and care, within reasonable time and at a reasonable cost where no price has been agreed.

Mr Willey said yesterday: "This bill will not give consumers a host of new rights. It is an attempt to make sense out of nonsense."

Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Haringey, Tottenham, has second place. His Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill follows court cases that have revealed wide-scale racketeering in unfit meat channelled into the food processing industry for human consumption.

Mr Atkinson's Bill would enable Food and Drugs Act offences to be heard in the Crown Court, instead of only in magistrates' courts as at present. The maximum fine would be raised from £100 to £1,000 on summary conviction, or an unlimited amount on indictment, with the further possibility of up to two years' imprisonment.

Mr Atkinson said: "The bill would put meat racketeering into the serious crime league. At present no one can safely say they have not eaten unfit or contaminated meat. I have been astonished by the evidence of how veterinary throw-outs and even cancerous carcasses find their way into the food trade."

Spokesmen for the Institution of Environmental Health Officers and the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, who also support the Bill, said that at present the penalties for describing meat wrongly were heavier than those for selling meat that was unfit and dangerous to health.

The Bill would also extend the time limits for bringing a prosecution from six months to three years.

Mr Atkinson said his Bill went far beyond anything the Government had proposed, but he thought he could count on its support.

The third Bill, to be introduced by Mr Gwyn Roberts, Labour MP for Cannock, would extend the Trade Descriptions Act to estate agents, tour operators, and all businesses providing services.

New hope of clearing Gruinard of anthrax

The Ministry of Defence is reviewing ways of ridding Gruinard Island, the site of Second World War germ warfare tests, of lethal spores of anthrax. The study will be conducted by scientists at the Porton research centre near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

An investigation in 1971 suggested three methods, but they were rejected as too expensive. The costs were estimated at between £3m and £15m at 1971 prices.

Anthrax-infected soil was removed from the island in October by a group of alleged microbiologists, calling themselves "Dark Harvest".

Stolen samples were planted inside the Porton Down perimeter fence, and later at Blackpool, near the venue of the Conservative Party conference.

A spokesman for the ministry, said yesterday: "Our study group is intensively reviewing ways of decontaminating Gruinard Island. Various methods are being studied, and the cost involved."

A survey in 1979 of the one-and-a-half-mile-long island, near Ullapool, Wester Ross, showed that it was still heavily contaminated with anthrax.

The three methods of "cleaning" the island suggested in 1971 were: Stripping of the top layer of soil and dumping it in the Atlantic; neutralizing the spores with steam pressure hoses or chemicals; or bomb bombardment by radiation.

"The company has decided to use cars for business travel."

"The company has decided to use cars for business travel."

"The company has decided to use cars for business travel."



Many companies hear no evil, see no evil and will speak no evil of the company car.

In fact the company car is so much taken for granted you may have long since ceased to evaluate its real effectiveness.

The company car no doubt has some advantages. But for longer trips it can be one of the slowest ways of getting from A to B.

And what exactly are your executives doing all the time they're in the car? They can't prepare for business meetings, they can't relax, they can't even think. And yet you pay them every moment they're in the car. Pay them in effect for doing nothing.

Now, suppose they leave the car behind and take the train. They will be safer (in 1980 not one passenger was killed in a train

accident). They will almost certainly arrive quicker. They can relax in air-conditioned comfort on many trains, sit back in ergonomically designed seats, and give their full attention to any business problem that needs solving.

On Inter-City trains there is ample desk space and a virtual guarantee of freedom from interruptions. Which means an exceptionally high level of productivity. Perhaps even higher than that achieved in the office.

Which makes the true cost of train travel very low indeed.

Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

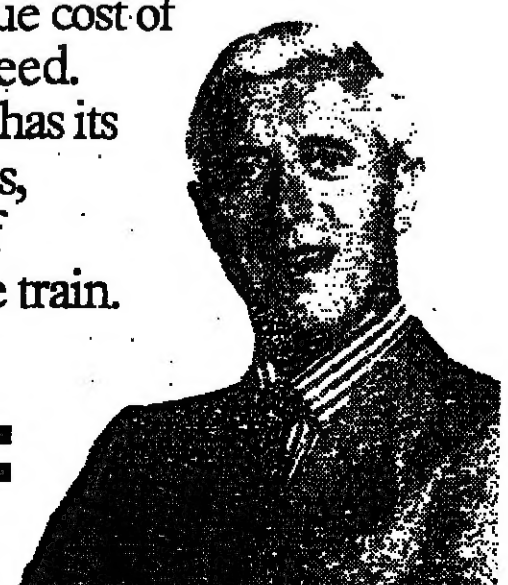
Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

Undeniably, the car has its place. But for longer trips, especially, there's a lot of wisdom in opting for the train.

This is the age of the train ➡



Drop in number of road deaths may continue

By Our Transport Correspondent

After announcing the lowest road casualty figures for 22 years, the Department of Transport is hoping for a further drop in deaths and serious injuries as a result of new safety legislation due next year.

Last year, 6,010 people were killed on the roads, the fewest since 1958 when the total was 5,970. Over the same period the volume of traffic rose threefold.

Provisional figures for the first quarter of this year show a further drop of 8 per cent in fatalities and a 6 per cent fall in the number of those seriously injured.

The most important effect on casualties over the next few years could come with the introduction of the compulsory wearing of seat belts for car drivers and front seat passengers. That is expected to become law by next summer.

The Government has estimated that if the "wearing rate" went up from the present 32 per cent to 100 per cent, 1,000 lives and 10,000 serious injuries could be saved in a year. A "wearing rate" of 75 per cent would save 650 lives.

The Department of Transport is also hoping to reverse the upward trend in motor cycle casualties, which is in sharp contrast to the general picture. All casualties have fallen by 10 per cent over the past decade, but motor cycle deaths have risen by 50 per cent.

In an attempt to reduce motor cycle casualties, the Government is introducing a tougher, two-part, driving test, limiting the size of machine that a learner may drive and restricting the time period on provisional licences.

Next year, too, the drink-driving laws will be tightened and the Government expects that will have a deterrent effect on potential violators. Among other changes will be the use of electronic breath testing machines at police stations in place of blood or urine samples.

Britain already has one of the best road casualty records in Europe. Only Norway and Sweden have proportionately fewer road deaths.

The worst year for road casualties in Britain was 1941, during the wartime blackout when 3,169 people were killed. The highest figure in peacetime was 7,985 deaths in 1966.

Boys expelled in drugs inquiry

Two senior boys at Bedford School, Bedfordshire, have been expelled for selling drugs to other pupils. Both were questioned by drug squad officers investigating cannabis peddling.

Since the inquiry the boys have been sent back to their homes in Germany. A third boy was expelled for possessing the drug, and a fourth was expelled for unsatisfactory behaviour, including possessing smoking equipment.

Bedford School, where boarders pay £2,682 a year, said the two boys sent to Germany had been expelled for obtaining and distributing cannabis.

Policemen die in car crash

Three policemen were killed in a car crash after celebrating the birth of a baby of one of them.

Four constables, all off-duty, left a public house on Monday night, with the father, Police Constable Ian Foulger, aged 26, driving.

After dropping off one of the constables, the car collided with a stationary breakdown vehicle on the Bromham to Bedford road in Bedfordshire.

The dead men were Police Constable Foulger, of Mowbray Close, Bedford, Ian Purdie, aged 23, of Arundel Drive, Bedford, Kevin Brice, aged 26, of Goldington Green, Bedford. The fourth man was seriously injured.

Geneva delegates settle down to hard bargaining

From Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, Geneva, Dec 1

Soviet and American delegations to the talks about limiting nuclear weapons in Europe held their first negotiating session here today, in a room with a breathtaking view and a clock that was five minutes fast.

It lasted two hours and 40 minutes and will be followed by another on Friday. Twice-weekly meetings alternating between the Soviet and American headquarters on Tuesdays and Fridays will become the pattern for the talks, with less formal discussions in between.

If the world's two most powerful nations ever resolve to kiss and make up, it would surely have to be here in the eighth floor American conference room overlooking Lake Geneva, glistening in the winter sunshine, beyond the French Alps with Mont Blanc on the horizon.

One potential source of discord is that the Americans have taken the best seats facing the windows and the balcony, while the Russians once more have to turn their backs upon the outside world and gaze upon a row of rather indifferent modern prints on the wall.

"We always sit this side at arms control talks," a Soviet public relations official said. "No, we didn't toss for it—and no, we don't change round at half-time. We just always sit this side."

The room is at the offices of

the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and was used during the last series of SALT talks. It is large and functional, with a 30ft polished wooden table which today was the focal point of most press interest.

Apart from the view, the facilities were austere—just a pristine pad of notepaper before each place, two sharpened pencils, a glass with built-in India rubbers and trays of water jugs and glasses.

The delegations arrived a minute late, led by Mr Paul Nitze for the Americans and Mr Yuri Kvitsinsky for the Russians, both of whom sat facing each other in the centre of the table, in high-backed leather revolving chairs. Each side had nine other members and advisers, in low-backed matching chairs who sat nodding at each other with polite interest, like visiting Rotarians.

"Will you please move back," belted an official as the television lights flared. Another hastily cleaned Mr Kvitsinsky's ashtray in which someone had stubbed out a couple of king-size filter-tips. Mr Nitze, who looked happier on his home ground, invited his duelling partner to shake hands for the cameras. Once more he beamed Mr Kvitsinsky, and they shook hands for the next few minutes.

"MBFR tie," he remarked cheerfully across the table, a reference to the tie designed for the many delegates who

have attended the Vienna talks on Mutual Balanced Force Reductions in Europe since they opened eight years ago. As nobody was actually wearing an MBFR tie, this baffled everyone. Mr Kvitsinsky's own tie was navy blue with white polka dots. I have a SALT 1 tie at home," volunteered Mr Nitze.

Then, the banalities over, they politely ejected the media and got down to the business of the arms negotiations. These have now been officially characterized by NATO as the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Talks. The "intermediate" replaces "theatre" in deference to those countries who did not want reminding that in wartime they would not only be in the European theatre, but would be sitting somewhere in the front stalls.

Oslo: Dr Joseph Luns, NATO's Secretary-General, has given the Geneva talks "a fair chance of reaching an agreement."

At a press conference today after completing two days of talks with Norwegian Government officials and officers at NATO's Northern Europe Headquarters (Afnorth) here, Dr Luns said: "I'm not pessimistic. There is a fair chance that serious negotiations will be reached, concluded and signed. Although that agreement might not be what we all hoped for, I would put to you that an agreement is better than no agreement."—AP.

Sabotage cuts oil output in Angola

By Our Foreign Staff

Saboteurs have blown up part of an Angolan oil refinery, and the damage will cause severe shortages of refined oil.

A spokesman for Petrofina, the Belgian oil company which runs the Petrolplaat plant near Luanda, said that it could be out of operation for two months.

Unita, the anti-Government guerrilla movement, which operates in south-eastern Angola with South African support, claimed responsibility for the attack on Monday, which was carried out with Soviet rocket-propelled grenades. The resulting fire was brought under control yesterday.

The claim was made by Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, in New York yesterday.

Dr Savimbi said an all-out offensive could be launched once Namibia gained independence and would demonstrate that his forces did not depend on South Africa's presence in the territory.

He also said in an interview with Reuters that Unita had received "signals" of a willingness to negotiate from factions of the ruling MPLA party in Angola.

The attack was a demonstration of Unita's strength despite the executions of 16 of its leaders in November, 1980.

If there are more explosions, we promise we are going to strike again," he said. Further attacks would be made "every time we see any political or military move on its part."

He said he was receiving reports of mass arrests in Luanda and was watching for any executions.

The Angolan Government claimed that the saboteurs were the work of South Africa using a group of white mercenaries.

The government press agency said journalists in Luanda were shown the body of a white man who was said to have been one of the mercenaries killed in the attack.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pedro Van Dunem, the Angolan Oil and Energy Minister, said the attack may have been a subterfuge. The South African Government swiftly denied the allegations.

The minister confirmed that the area where the finished oil products are stored had been badly damaged and added that the whole refining plant which had a capacity of 33,000 barrels a day had been closed down.

A government statement yesterday said the saboteurs were trying to cut off oil supplies to Angolan troops fighting the South African Army in the south of the country, and drew attention to the strategic implications of a fuel shortage in a country where the Angolan Army is involved in a costly war.

The Angolan Government says its troops have never been able to regain control of the large area of the southern border provinces seized by the South African Army during last August's incursion.

According to a separate oil ministry communiqué, the refinery attack caused a rush on the stocks of refined products, most of which are imported from abroad.

The refinery attack caused a rush on the stocks of refined products, most of which are imported from abroad.

Keith Waldegrave



Dr Morales: Junta will welcome foreign observers

El Salvador invites Britain to monitor elections

By Denis Taylor

A member of the ruling junta in El Salvador said a representative political group, opposed to the American-backed junta.

When it was put to him that even the United States Congress with its Republican majority had shown concern about El Salvador's record on human rights, Dr Morales said that the situation was improving daily.

He denied that Salvadoran troops had ever attacked Salvadoran refugees in camps across the border in Honduras.

Mr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich said that elections to choose a constituent assembly would be held on March 21 next year, and he invited the President José Napoleón Duarte to welcome maximum international observation.

Dr Morales was talking to journalists after a meeting lasting 35 minutes with Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office. Dr Morales has visited The Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany and is going on to Italy and Spain.

Although Dr Morales suggested that special significance should not be attached to the Paris summit, a notable omission of the first major diplomatic initiative taken by the Mitterrand Government was a joint statement with Mexico issued three months ago. This recognized the Salvadoran left,



Strikers' shopping: students staging a sit-in strike in the firemen's training college in Warsaw are handing money to a passer-by to buy food for them.

Riot police blockade Warsaw college

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Dec 1

About 1,000 Polish riot police moved into position around the college last night in an attempt to put pressure on students occupying the building.

The 350 students, all training to be fire department officers, are occupying the college, their aim is to ensure that the college falls under a new draft Bill guaranteeing democratic rights for all civilian academic institutions.

At present, the firemen's academy is run by the Interior Ministry but has strong military elements in its staffing and would probably not benefit from the draft Bill to be considered by the Polish Parliament in the next few days.

The Communist Party leadership has taken the sit-in protest extremely seriously, seeing it as a direct challenge. The protest follows similar sit-ins and occupations in about 70 institutions throughout the country, most of which are demanding democratic elections for senior staff.

The police have cordoned off the academy for the past three days but have stepped up their presence today after the protest on the students' part.

Between the student body and senior officials, General Stanislaw Zaczekowski, the deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, and Mr Tomasz Ostrowski, Commander-in-Chief of the Fire Department, have both tried to open talks with the students.

Sources in Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, which is backing the protest, said the authorities did not appear to be willing to concede significant ground.

The Interior Ministry, in an attempt to put further pressure on the students, has announced the dissolution of the academy. At the same time, General Mieczyslaw Klaczak, the Interior Minister, has promised that the regulations will be allowed to continue their studies.

There was still no indication last night whether the riot police would actually move into the building or indeed what the authorities hope to achieve by blockading the building.

Party campaign: The Communist Party's leadership has launched an all-out propaganda campaign against attempts to oust party officials from factories.

The party clearly fears that the factory committees, one of its main power bases, are being undermined by Solidarity. In swift succession, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the party

Syria attacks Habib right to mediate

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Dec 1

The Middle East peace mission of Mr Philip Habib, the United States mediator, appeared to run into serious trouble tonight when Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, told him that the United States could no longer mediate in the region because its new strategic agreement with Israel made America "a direct party to the conflict."

There was no suggestion that Mr Khaddam intended to break off the talks which President Reagan's special Middle East envoy began in Damascus today, but the Syrians clearly intend to make any bargaining over their Sami missiles in Lebanon as "difficult" as possible.

The United States signed its defence pact with Israel yesterday, but insisted that it was not directed against any other states in the area. The Syrians took a different view and are using the pact to embarrass Mr Habib.

Mr Khaddam told him: "You have signed an agreement of mutual defence with Israel, the United States no longer has the right to undertake any mediation or play the role of arbitrator in the Arab-Israeli conflict because you have become a direct party to the conflict."

Syria has regarded America as Israel's ally for more than a quarter of a century, but the timing of the new Israeli-American pact, and severely have come at a worse time for the ubiquitous but reticent Mr Habib.

Ever since the Israelis shot down two helicopters over Lebanon last summer, provoking Syria to launch anti-aircraft missiles in the Bekaa valley, the American diplomat—whose father was Lebanese—has paid repeated visits to the Middle East in an attempt to prevent a conflict between Syria and Israel.

In fact, the Syrians are as anxious to hear what Mr Habib has to tell them as they are keen to inform him of their

own suspicions over America's relations with Israel. Mr Habib has been holding talks in Beirut with Mr Bashir Gemayel, the Lebanese Phalangist leader whose agreement to the status quo in Lebanon is essential if further conflicts between Syrian troops and Christian militias in Beirut is to be prevented.

If Mr Habib can convince the Syrians that they have no cause to fear a further struggle with the Phalangists, then Syria can reduce the number of divisions it keeps in Lebanon and—conceivably—withdraw some of its anti-aircraft missiles. But in the aftermath of the Arab summit in Fez, which President Assad of Syria resolutely refused to attend, Syria is in no mood to display any moderation in its dealings with the Americans or in its attitude to Israel.

Mr Khaddam told Mr Habib that "nothing has changed in the area except that Israel is becoming more aggressive in its actions and its threats." The implication was that Mr Habib should produce some evidence that the United States can control Israeli actions in Lebanon and prevent further conflict in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is this hardheaded battlefield—where Palestinian guerrillas and Israeli-supplied Christian militias have maintained a doubtful ceasefire since the summer—that now most concerns the Syrians. They fear that any new direct conflict between Israel and Palestinians will draw them into a war with Israel.

Beirut radio reported today that one man had died when his house was blown up in southern Lebanon. Several members of the Christian militia, the house, in the village of Toule, in the area controlled by the United Nations, was destroyed in the explosion. A United Nations spokesman denied a report that Israeli troops were involved in the incident.

Israeli opposition angered by strategic US links

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Dec 1

Israel's right-wing Government faces four sessions of no confidence tomorrow in the Knesset, called by opposition parties angry at the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation with the United States which was signed in Washington last night.

The parliamentary motions have been tabled by parties ranging from the Likud command to the small Ratz party on the extreme right. It was announced tonight that four ministers are being flown home from abroad to help the Government defend its slender two-seat majority, which most political observers expect to survive the final vote.

Many politicians in Israel feel that the memorandum was not given sufficient consideration before being signed. Mr Abba Eban, the Labour foreign affairs spokesman, will attack the global implications of the document, which he claims is the first which the Americans have provided another party to sign, which specifically mentions the Soviet Union by name. He will argue that this undermines the delicate complex of foreign relations built up by Israel over the years.

In a joint press statement accompanying the memorandum, Israel and America said it would be a "cooperative" relationship to act "cooperatively" to provide each other with military assistance to cope with threats to the security of the entire region caused by the USSR. It also stated that a similar strategic cooperation agreement was signed recently between Syria and the Soviet Union.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, a former Labour Minister, gave a warning that the agreement would force Israeli troops to take up arms for causes which were not strictly Israel's.

Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, said that a secret annex to the memorandum would show that it was a document with important economic and political consequences.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, was rushed to a Tel Aviv hospital complaining of heart trouble today, but later was allowed home.—AP.

Nuclear controls questioned

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Dec 1

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the controlling body for the United States industry, is concerned that international safeguards to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons may in some cases be too weak.

In its first official expression of disquiet, the NRC says the way the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) monitors the peaceful use of atomic power, the commission doubts whether inspections in some plants would show that material was being diverted to weapons.

Neither is it confident that any diversion of material would be discovered "in a timely fashion," the commission believes. It would be possible for a country with certain nuclear plants to be building a bomb and the IAEA not to know.

The concerns have been expressed in a letter to several congressional committees from Mr Nunzio Palladino, chairman of the commission.

The installation that most worries the NRC is a reactor developed in Canada, and which has been exported to several Third World countries.

France wants to breathe new life into WEU

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Dec 1

A French Minister of State in the Defence Ministry today indicated that France wants to breathe new life into the Western European Union, particularly in the field of joint defence.

"It is not illogical to believe that one day or the other, it will be necessary to give more substance to the work of the WEU," M Georges Lemoine suggested cautiously at the WEU Assembly now meeting in Paris.

He suggested that the assembly—consisting of representatives from Britain, France, West Germany, Italy,

Champagne firm fined by EEC

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Dec 1

What began as an attempt to protect Britons from the worst effects of the champagne shortage has ended with one of France's manufacturers having to pay a £616,000 fine to the European Commission.

The Commission announced today that it had imposed the fine on Moët-Hennessy of Paris because its British subsidiary Moët-et-Chandon (London) Ltd had made the sale of its champagne in Britain conditional on its not being resold abroad.

A director of Moët in London said that it had included the condition in its terms of sale at the beginning of 1980 to try to ensure that the limited allocation of champagne destined for Britain actually reached the British consumer.

"After three disastrously small harvests in Champagne in the past four years, there is a chronic shortage of champagne and we have only a strict annual allocation of supplies," he said today.

The Commission said today that the clause, which was deleted six weeks ago, was a serious infringement of the EEC treaty which forbids barriers to the free movement of goods inside the community.

Dr José Antonio Morales Ehrlich said that elections to choose a constituent assembly would be held on March 21 next year, and he invited the President José Napoleón Duarte to welcome maximum international observation.

Dr Morales was talking to journalists after a meeting lasting 35 minutes with Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office. Dr Morales has visited The Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany and is going on to Italy and Spain.

Although Dr Morales suggested that special significance should not be attached to the Paris summit, a notable omission of the first major diplomatic initiative taken by the Mitterrand Government was a joint statement with Mexico issued three months ago. This recognized the Salvadoran left,

His suggestions might seem timid, the minister said, but they were a start.

Dispute at UN over flag of PLO

From Our Correspondent, New York, Dec 1

The unauthorized display of a Palestinian flag in a lobby at the United Nations headquarters here has caused a diplomatic furore with both Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization accusing the United Nations of taking sides.

A spokesman for the United Nations said today that a member of the department of public information had put up the flag and a 1947 map of Palestine as a backdrop for a number of television interviews being conducted with Arab delegates on the occasion of the UN's annual day of solidarity with the Palestinians observed yesterday.

After a strong private protest made by Israel a number of security guards attempted to remove the display in the face of a defiant Mr Zehdi Ferns, the PLO representative.

The two-hour ordeal which at one point saw the involvement of the Secretary General, Dr Kurt Waldheim, two under-secretaries, generals and the chief of security, ended when a compromise was reached allowing the display to be moved inside the chamber. But the incident did not end without a flurry of protests.

Under United Nations regulations, only the flags of member states can be shown inside or around the headquarters.

The European Community yesterday used the United Nations day of solidarity with the "Palestinian people" to reiterate the principles of the Venice declaration in a statement which was not expected to help ease tensions between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

The timing of the press statement, issued by Britain as president of the Council of Ministers, was significant because of the recent controversy over a European role in the Sinai peacekeeping force.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

The Belgians try again

Brussels.—Mr Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb accepted the difficult task of trying to form a new Belgian government (Jan Murray writes). In doing his job, Mr Nothomb obviously decided that only by taking into account the strong left-wing element in French-speaking Wallonia might it be possible to find a compromise coalition.

Mr Nothomb, the caretaker Foreign Minister, was largely responsible for the collapse of the first attempt to form a government under Mr Willy De Clercq, the Flemish Liberal leader.

Iran sues US

Tehran.—Iran has filed a \$12,000m (£631m) claim against the United States for undervalued arms bought by the late Shah.

Mr Hassan Nurbakhsh, Governor of the Iranian Central Bank.

Rescuers drown

Copenhagen.—Six lifeboats were drowned off north-west Jutland when their boat capsized in rough seas as they went to rescue three men from a shipwrecked Danish fishing boat. The three fishermen were reported missing.

Plea for Sakharov

Washington.—A human rights committee yesterday asked the International Red Cross to check on the health of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident Soviet scientist who is believed to be on hunger strike in the city of Gorky.

Böhl wins damages

Karlsruhe.—Heinrich Böhl, the West-German Nobel Prize-winning author, was yesterday awarded 40,000 marks (£5,300) damages against a broadcaster who, seven years ago, said he bore intellectual responsibility for terrorist crimes.



The cheaper Sony could cost you more.

One of these Sony colour TV sets comes from an Authorised Sony Dealer, at £289.95.

The other, at only £209.95, came from a dealer who isn't authorised by Sony to sell their products.

Unhappily, a cheaper Sony may only look a bargain in the shop. Once people get one home, they can find it doesn't work properly.

When Sony's engineers looked into one of these cheaper sets, they soon discovered why.

It had originally been designed by Sony for use on the Continent, and not for Britain's different transmission system.

Obviously, some unknown opportunist had sneaked a number of them out of the Continent and into this country.

Then, having converted them amateurishly for UK use, he'd sold them cheaply to an unauthorised dealer.

The way to steer clear of such a dealer, is by directing your steps to an Authorised Sony Dealer.

An Authorised Sony Dealer is trained to demonstrate Sony products to you properly, and to let you see them working before you pay for them.

If you need to call on the Sony guarantee, the work is done quickly and correctly.

And when you buy a Sony from him, you know who's touched it before you.

Nobody but Sony's authorised people.



From Nicholas Ashford, Washington Dec 1

From Our Correspondent **La Paz, Dec 1**

From Trevor Fishlock, Rangoon, Dec 1

**From Dessa Trevisan
Bucharest, Dec 1**

From Richard Wigg
Madrid Dec 1

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Dec 1

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, Dec 1

By Our Foreign Staff

**From our Correspondent
Nairobi, Dec. 1**

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo, Dec 1

Patrick Knight

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Dec 1

or, Salisbury, Dec 1

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Dec 1

Mr. Bond called on South

Fashion by Suzy Menkes

Princess and the pearls

The Princess and the Pearls (at the Palace Theatre for a season) is an intriguing mystery play for family entertainment. The pretty young Princess of the title appears in a variety of pearl chokers and the audience has to deduce, from the attitudes of the cast, which are the real royal pearls.

The play opens with the arrival of Lady Sarah, the Princess's sister, at St Paul's Cathedral wearing a six-strand pearl choker with claw foot pearl clasp.

The scene switches to the state landau carrying the Princess away on honeymoon; she is wearing the identical choker, apparently removed from her sister's neck at the reception.

Has Lady Sarah been murdered for her pearls? Has the Princess lost her own three-strand necklace, much photographed throughout the summer



Three tier pre-wedding pearls



Six of the best for Lady Sarah at St Paul's



Snap for the Princess as she leaves for honeymoon



A new choker for the ballet? Lady Sarah, behind, is reduced to three strands

season and copied by jewellers throughout the land? The second act takes place three months later when the audience is relieved to see the three-strand necklace reappear in Wales and Lady Sarah reappears in London.

But the plot thickens near Christmas when the Princess is

spotted leaving Covent Garden with a magnificent six-strand necklace with a dazzling new clasp. Her Cinderella sister Sarah is reduced to three strands of pearls.

Who owns the most pearls? Is there a third sister involved in the jewel swap? Has the Prince yet done the decent thing and

bought his beloved a choker of her own? A subsidiary plot concerns the jewellers involved in creating chokers for the aristocratic young extras wanting to ape the Princess.

Are Garrards, the royal jewellers, who sell pearls by the oyster-load and clasps to choice,

involved with the pearly princess? Could she have chosen them at Collingwoods or asked for them at Aspreys?

Or has the Prince been a cad and bought one of the many copies of the pearl choker to cover his wife's naked neck?

The audience is left guessing to the end.

Thinking big about greatcoats

Meryl Streep seems to have done as much for capes as she has for the cause of the liberated Victorian lady. Her wave-lashed first appearance in the film of *The French Lieutenant's Woman* underlines the romance and mystery of the all-enveloping cape.

I don't know if the screening of *War and Peace* will help to popularize the greatcoat. But the big coat and the swirling cape both follow today's feeling for the cavalier look. They also answer a general need to find an outer garment that fits stylishly over everything you own.

It used to be the norm for a woman to own at least a couple of winter coats. A tailored town coat and a tweedy country style were essentials in a wardrobe, with a lighter spring coat and a macintosh for in-between seasons.

Inflation and layered dressing have revolutionized that concept. Most women now have only one heavy-weight coat, making do with cardigan coats, shawls, and jackets for anything but the most brutal weather.

If you have only one coat, it has got to be right, which means a classic in colour and shape. The favourite tag for this season for both coats

and capes is loden, that hedge green thick wool fabric, associated with mountain and warm enough for the Austrian army. The other favourite is camel, with variations on earth-coloured weaves also popular.

Many readers tell me that they find it difficult to get a winter coat. I think this comes from trying on a coat in your own size, rather than in one or two sizes bigger.

A generous cut and a really long hemline are essential if you want your coat to feel comfortable over a tweed jacket or bulky cardigan and to look right over the prairie skirts and knickerbockers.

It follows that a raglan shoulder is a wiser choice than a set-in sleeve and a swing-back more practical than a fitted coat.

You won't find a really big coat for much under £100 these days and the most luxurious in camel hair or cashmere are three times that price.

If you are buying below that level, it will pay to think bigger still and buy two sizes over your dress shape. Women are also increasingly raiding men's departments for classic coats which have a generous cut and often a power-shoulder tag for the equivalent quality.



Big loden trench coat with leather collar-back and buttons £215, scarf from a selection and herringbone patterned shirt from Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1 and Harrods, Knightsbridge SW1. Fairisle cardigan £47.50, by Mulberry from Liberty, Regent Street, W1. Fairisle gloves by Dorn & Phipps, Regent Street, W1. Ribbed tights by Elbow. Fleece-lined boots from Russell & Bromley.



Vigora cape braided in black £79, also in camel or black. Paisley patterned tunic £35, russet cord breeches £37 and ribbed tights. All from Jaeger shops nationwide. String and leather gloves by Dorn & Phipps from Army and Navy. Fleece-lined suede boots £36.99 from Russell & Bromley.

Photographs by Tony Bosse

Trouble and strife — or politics in the family

The 1979 General Election proved, if proof were needed, that a lot of women shared bed and board with men of a wholly different political persuasion. In fact, Mrs Thatcher might well be leading the Opposition were it not for the wives of Labour-voting husbands who sneaked a Tory vote into the ballot box.

What makes their case different from my own is that they had the good sense to keep quiet about their voting intentions. But then, their husbands were habitual socialists, a breed easy enough not to take issue with, and not, like my own dear one, a brand new convert to the SDP (or Sodpal as we detractors prefer to call it).

We both look back with uneasy nostalgia to the days when he was an unaligned capitalist and I was a benign radical. We resolved our political differences over a bottle of Scotch and mutually tolerant talk about a society that combined compassion with incentives. For the rest of the time, we just went about our business.

The formation of the SDP has changed almost political discussion as we know it.

It's the Noisy Party and nobody can keep quiet about it. Like one who has witnessed the miracle at Fatima, my husband can't keep his conversion to himself. A reference to proportional representation wiggles its way into every conversation, as if it were some kind of moral imperative.

We would both be better off if I could learn how to be enigmatically silent, the way a surgeon is when a recently operated-on patient swears that the scalpel is still inside his stomach, but I am as noisy as a whole council of Sodpals.

So I shriek, until the glasses tinkle with the vibrations, that the probable outcome of PR is that every household will be issued with a pasta-making machine and middle-class green wellies.

Ever since the SDP suggested that its members could subscribe by credit card, I have visualized it as the party whose aim is to make life safe for the man in the Leisuretime Safari Suit. I could never see the point of conducting opinion polls at the recent Crosby by-election. A count of all households with battery-operated vacuum cleaners for brushing down the car upholstery would have predicted the size of Mrs Williams's vote.

There is some satisfaction to be gained in the scoring of cheap points, and the SDP mailings to its membership is a fruitful source of nastiness.

A recent one gave details of its "Xmas Fayre". "F-A-Y-E", I sneered, "think that's probably worse than Bill Rodgers's new haircut and David Owen's sing-song on the first class only train. F-A-Y-E, oh my paws and whiskers." This is the year that my husband refused to let me sell him a Labour Party raffle ticket.

Our domestic situation is not unique. Of the married couples I know, more men have joined the Noisy Party than their wives, giving credence to the theory that, politically, men are more volatile than women. I suspect that part of the reason why women like myself are staying put is because we are immune to the hard sell. We have learnt by now that however brilliant the television commercial, the detergent it lauds can't really make the sheets look permanently sunlit.

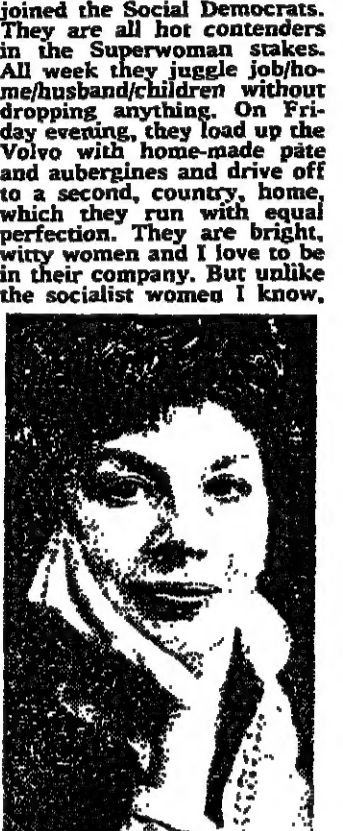
"I loathe this constant persuasion," said the wife of a recent convert. "It's making me sympathize, belatedly, with Freud's neurotic female patients. They probably got neurotic because they couldn't prove he was wrong even though they knew he was."

Another woman said that she's never had any problems reconciling her desire for

equal opportunity with her intention of educating her children privately. After listening to her newly SDP husband give a balanced, reasonable and lengthy explanation about not denying people freedom of choice.... basic right of every parent.... must level up not down, etc. etc., she wanted to slip out and set fire to Eton.

Maybe I remain loyal to the Labour Party because I suspect I have got a good thing going there. Years of mingling with belligerent women like me has had a lovely effect on the socialist male. There is no one as willing as he to run a crèche or cook a meal. I do not suppose it is terribly relevant to the state of the nation, but one of the things I like best about Labour Party meetings is that I feel surrounded by men who would not dream of making jokes about women drivers.

Nevertheless, some of my best female friends have joined the Social Democrats. They are all hot contenders in the Superwoman stakes. All week they juggle job/home/husband/children without dropping anything. On Friday evening, they load up the Volvo with house-paint, paint and subergines and drive off to a second, country, home, which they run with equal perfection. They are bright, witty women and I love to be in their company. But unlike the socialist women I know,



Penny Perrick noisy party at breakfast time

they don't express many views about David Stockman or Dr Nicholas Humphrey or the zero option.

They could say, and fairly, that women like me, who certainly do not shine in all domestic departments, have more time to concentrate on political issues. To which I could reply, with equal fairness, that that is the whole point. I feel that, if they are not careful, female Social Democrats, for all their party's splendid pronouncements about equality between the sexes, may find themselves becoming a more glamorous version of the traditional female constituency worker — that put-upon drudge who made the tea and licked the envelopes and rarely got short-listed.

Already at SDP gatherings, I notice that women, instead of having their say, merely take an interest — or at least pretend to. Even the redoubtable Shirley Williams has acquired this skill. At a party recently, she got into conversation with my husband. Or rather, she did not. My husband talked. She listened. He went on. She did not interrupt. He talked some more. She put her head on one side, the better to hear the wonders that spilled from his lip.

On the way home, I asked him if he would like me to behave so attentively — "put my head on one side and listen to you, I mean, instead of talking at the time." This opportunity to score points was irresistible. "No point in your doing that," he said. "It only works if you've got charm."

Penny Perrick

Sparkle at your feet



In the absence of glass slippers, Cinderella's ballgown leaves a nasty gap below the ankles. A spaghetti junction of gilded straps entwined around the toes looks odd with a crinoline skirt. Court shoes and pumps need to be decorated at the toe in order not to look as though you are dancing in your day shoes.

Since Edward Rayne's family came into the shoe business by dressing Lillie Langtry's little feet, it is not surprising that he should be the man to put the sparkle back into the (royal) court shoe.

Edward Rayne, the head of a shoe empire that has retail footprints across America, tells me that clothes fashions affect shoe design, but that the demand for comfortable shoe and the desire to look elegant in high heels remain the constants of his business.

The big growth areas of the last decade have been in boots (which started with the Ballet Russe boots in the 1920s) and in espadrilles.

"There is now an enormous variety of new textures, materials and finishes for shoes," he explains. "We have cobra patterns, lustre calf and the metallics. The shoe trade was once dominated by America, but gradually European style emerged. I don't think our shoes are particularly English. The world is our marketplace and the competition isn't local, but international."

Shoe technology has now become so refined that a pair of shoes made in two days can be as good as one that used to take weeks. But Edward Rayne claims that shoes are still the most complicated articles of wearing apparel and a lot of

consumer problems come from public ignorance.

"American women are fitting mad, they really know their sizes. No woman should have to suffer to be beautiful, and American women certainly will not."

Passionate collectors of footwear like Lady Docker must be dear to any shoe-maker's heart, but Edward Rayne says that all shoes fascinate him and the first thing he looks at when he meets someone is the feet.

"My wife says that I am permanently looking at the pavement," says Edward Rayne, who himself wears the most conservative of gleaming leather shoes.

I cannot help feeling that John Bortray, who painted the strong portrait hanging in Rayne's elegant Mayfair flat, ought to have painted his subject from head to leather toe.

■ Glittering gilded crescent moons on a black satin court shoe. Also in plain bronze mock snakeskin, £64. ■ Mink pom-pom on a low-heeled black velvet bouidour shoe, £69.50. ■ Multi-coloured leather thongs make an abstract design black suede courts. Also in tan, £69.50. ■ Art deco sunburst on the toe of red suede court shoes. Also in black, £59.50. ■ All shoes in sizes 3½ to 8½ from Rayne, 15 Old Bond Street, W1, Harrods and Harvey Nichols, SW1 and main Rayne branches nationwide.

Court of Appeal

Law Report December 2 1981

Divisional Court

The Wenjiang
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Fox
[Judgment delivered December 1]
A judge was correct to grant charterers leave to appeal to the High Court under section 1 of the Arbitration Act 1979 from the decision of an arbitrator that the date of frustration of a charterparty, concerning a vessel which was trapped in the Shatt-el-Arab waterway, by reason of the war between Iran and Iraq, was November 24, 1980, rather than an earlier date.

The Court of Appeal dismissed, to that extent, an appeal by the owners, Hemisphere Shipping Co Ltd of Hongkong, from a decision of Mr Justice Robert Goff granting leave to the charterers, International Sea Tankers Inc, of Liberia, to appeal from an interim award of the arbitrator, Mr Donald Davies.

Mr John Thomas for the owners; Mr Michael Dean, QC for the charterers.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that owing to the fighting which broke out in September 1980, 60 ships were trapped in the Shatt-el-Arab. They were flying flags of many nations and sailing under different charterparties. In the early days it was hoped that the vessels would be allowed out, but that hope vanished in the first few weeks. The crews left, and the ships remained and were still there.

Date of frustration due to Iran-Iraq war

It was agreed on all sides that all the charterparties became frustrated. The question was: at what date? It was vital because from that date onwards no hire would be payable by the charterers.

In four cases heard by arbitrators much the same evidence had been given in each case, but the dates of frustration varied from October 4 to December 9, 1980. Something had to be done to procure uniformity of treatment.

The present case could be compared with *The Evia* (unreported August 6). The facts in the two cases were virtually indistinguishable: both vessels loaded or discharged at Basrah on September 22, 1980, when fighting around the town was starting. They were not allowed to leave and most of the crews had left by early October. The charterparties expired in April and May 1981, respectively.

In *The Wenjiang*, the arbitrator fixed the date of frustration as November 24, 1980; in *The Evia*, where the arbitrators disagreed, an umpire fixed it at October 4. In each case there was application to the commercial judge for leave to appeal, which was granted.

When Mr Justice Robert Goff gave judgment in *The Evia*, he said he that could find no fault in

the reasoning or conclusion of the umpire, and agreed that the contract had been frustrated on October 4. *The Wenjiang* was held up to await the decision of the House of Lords in *The Nema* (*The Times*, July 17; [1981] 3 WLR 292).

Now it was said that the judge should not have given leave to appeal. So the case raised once again the guidelines to be applied under the 1979 Act in applications for leave to appeal.

The principles were that the judge should first see if it was a "one-off" case. It might be "one-off" because the facts were so exceptional that they were singular to the case and not likely to occur again, or because it was a point of construction of a clause which was not likely to be used again.

In such a case the judge should not give leave to appeal if he thought the arbitrator was right or probably right or might have been right; he should only grant it if he formed the provisional view that the arbitrator was wrong on a point of law which could substantially affect the rights of one or other of the parties.

If it was not a "one-off" case, but gave rise to a question of construction of a standard form with facts which might occur repeatedly or from time to time, leave should be given if the judge

reached a conclusion as to the date of frustration which was reasonable. The arbitrator could reach, was not in the circumstances the correct one, since it was not a "one-off" case.

His Lordship's provisional view was that the arbitrator's decision was not right. Although the arbitrator referred to the clause of frustration in *Deutscher Handelsgesellschaft v. Farnham Davis Contractors Ltd v. Farnham Davis* ([1955] AC 696), he based his conclusion on what he called the "deprivation/expropriation" principle, which was first stated by Lord Loreburn (see *F. A. Tompkins Steamship Co Ltd v. Anglo-Mexican Petroleum Products Co Ltd* ([1915] 2 AC 397)) when the doctrine of frustration was in its infancy. Whether it was formed any, and if so what, part of the developed doctrine, was a matter on which the courts should have an opportunity of pronouncing.

Moreover, in view of the different dates that had been fixed by arbitrators, the court should intervene in the interest of certainty.

The other two points were covered by the other half of the clause. Since they raised questions of standard form construction, a strong prima facie case would have to be made out that the arbitrator was wrong in his construction. No such case had been made out.

Lord Justice Fox agreed.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Sinclair, Roche & Temperley.

Custody order with supervision

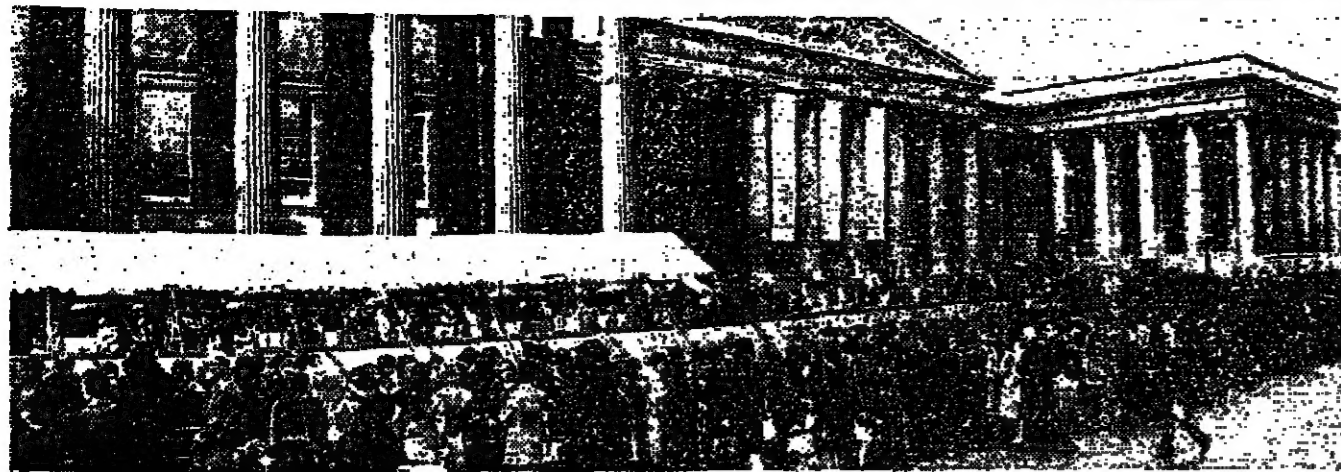
C v C
In a custody issue brought under the Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 justices should not make an order under section 2(b) of the Guardianship Act 1973 whereby the care of the minor was committed to the local authority, unless the justices had been satisfied that the parent or parents had failed to discharge their duty of care in relation to the minor. In those circumstances the justices should make a custody order in favour of the natural parent together with a supervision order.

MR JUSTICE EWBANK, with whom Mr Justice Wood in the Divisional Court of the Family Division agreed, allowed on November 30 a mother's appeal from the decision of Sutton

justices who on cross applications by each parent for custody had decided that the care of the minor should be committed to the London Borough of Sutton.

His Lordship said that the purpose of the section was to take away the care of the minor from the parents and entrust that care to someone other than either parent. In the present case the justices had seen psychiatric reports on each parent and the social worker had reported that the mother was capable of looking after the little girl. It was not open to the justices to take the view that it was impracticable or undesirable to entrust the care of the child to the mother. The appeal should be allowed and custody granted to the mother together with a supervision order.

Variation is remedy, not appeal
Nelson v Nelson
Mr Justice Wood sitting with Mr Justice Ewbank in the Divisional Court of the Family Division agreed, allowed on November 30 a husband's appeal that the order of justices made under section 2 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates'



More money for museums, but is it enough?

Mrs Thatcher responded swiftly yesterday to the suggestion that museums and art galleries are being starved of funds, so much so that the British Museum may be forced to close. She told the Commons that "the museums may look forward to some increase next year", although the precise amount would be announced only when the full public expenditure allocations are decided.

Now museum chiefs are wondering whether the increase is going to be enough to keep their collections fully on show. If not, museums face partial closure, a restriction on the number of opening days, the prospect of entrance charges and a hunt for commercial sponsors.

The certainty and bluntness with which Dr David Wilson, director of the British Museum, predicted that the museum would have to close in two years if Government grants were not increased was received with an air of astonishment by the House of Commons select committee on the funding of the arts.

When this warning was followed by the likelihood that, similarly, the National and Tate galleries could be reduced to opening only a small number of rooms — and that for the Victoria and Albert the result would be "catastrophic", the committee began to test whether the museum and gallery directors were crying wolf.

Almost all the bodies and individuals coming before the committee, under Mr Christopher Price, MP, its chairman, have complained about the lack of funds and asked for more, but here was a formidable case explaining what would happen if there were no more.

For Dr Wilson, it is a straightforward matter. The British Museum has no spare cash, and a lack of extra money would mean a real cut of 20 per cent or so over two years because of inflation. Since 35 per cent of the Government's grant for general maintenance and running costs goes on salaries, it would mean a reduction in staff.

The museum has frozen 60 posts and soon, Dr Wilson says, certain galleries will have to be closed. For the Museum, security is crucial, and without enough warders the galleries cannot remain open.

For the national museums and art galleries, as listed in the accompanying table, the Government provides a grant to cover the cost of running and maintaining them, and makes a grant for purchases and capital spending. It is the wide variation in this latter grant which gives the different percentage comparisons between the two years.

Dr Wilson pointed out to the select committee on Monday that the museum itself needed many improvements. Though the sculpture galleries have been brought up to modern standards, the upper galleries have not — six need floors strengthening, eight now have no permanent displays, 11 need remodelling and the Renaissance gallery is reduced to a corridor.

He argues that expenditure to bring the museum up to standard and maintain it would be well justified. "The museum is a profitable investment for the country," Dr Wilson says. On British Tourist Authority figures it earns many times more in foreign currency than the Government spends on it.

"But it needs a considerable and continuing injection of funds... If those funds are not available the buildings will deteriorate and the museum will be increasingly less attractive to tourists."

"It needs a considerable and continuing injection of funds to bring the buildings up to, and to maintain them at, modern standards" — Dr David Wilson, Director of the British Museum.

"Private funding, even on the most generous scale, can never be a substitute for full state support of the National Gallery" — Sir Michael Levey, Director.

"The ultimate solution for the great University Museums will have to be some form of direct support from the Exchequer" — Mr David Piper, Director of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

The difficulties facing an institution such as the National Gallery if the Government does not increase its funding for maintenance are uppermost in the thoughts of Sir Michael Levey, its director.

He believes the first requirement for the institution is that it is adequately staffed, to be open to the public, for proper care to be taken of the collection and that this is housed in a building properly maintained for the purpose.

"Funding of these basic requirements of a national institution must, I believe, continue to be, as it always has been, a matter for central government," he says.

Regional museums relying on public funds are also worried about the effect of possible Government cuts, working through local authorities. The Norfolk Museums Service looks after 15 museums and an archaeological unit, which are supported by the county council.

The Ashmolean Museum in Oxford is funded by its parent university, but as Mr David Piper, its director, emphasizes, the scale of support needed is beyond local authorities and the university.

Dr Piper says that the "ultimate solution for the great university museums in Oxford, Cambridge, London and Glasgow — will have to be some form of direct support from the Exchequer, perhaps in terms of a 50/50 grant in aid towards running costs."

The one possibility for funding these vast institutions is sponsorship, but no national museum or gallery sees this as the answer — partly because private bodies want to be associated mainly with the more glamorous side of the work. They will support special exhibitions, but are hardly likely to help pay the running costs or pay the salaries of the staff.

Dr Wilson put it succinctly when he said that you were unlikely to find a Bird's Eye fish finger sponsored warbler. Sponsorship clearly has its limits.

difficult competition for museums. So Dr Strong believes the only way private funding for the "less glamorous" museums will come about is through a sustained long-term re-education of the public. "The V and A is part of a Government department," he says. "Donors naturally express a reluctance to give to what is so specifically an arm of the Government."

That is a point viewed sympathetically by Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy, which does not receive any Government grant. The Academy, he said, survived entirely by raising the begging bowl, although it was in some ways more fortunate than the national museums, which had permanent collections. "We have no permanent collection and a constantly changing programme. Ours is a repository. Theirs is more like *The Mousetrap*."

Sir Hugh said the national museums were seen, wrongly, as a Government department, which made them appear less attractive propositions for sponsorship. "They will have to remain Government-funded, and if the funds go down they will have to close some rooms, but it might have to happen."

The Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Dr Roy Strong, director of the V and A, believes that private funding has meant that "museums have suffered from the bias towards and the emphasis on the performing arts." To the public, sponsorship tended to be given to the performing arts lobby, which had glamour and free seats to offer —

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Dr Roy Strong, director of the V and A, believes that private funding has meant that "museums have suffered from the bias towards and the emphasis on the performing arts." To the public, sponsorship tended to be given to the performing arts lobby, which had glamour and free seats to offer —

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

the Tate Gallery is looking enviously at its counterpart in Paris, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Centre; the Mitterrand government has announced a doubling in its grant increase. The Tate and the other museums and galleries will not get that, for sure, but by bringing their serious plight into the open they have a chance to exert just enough pressure to avoid worst.

Henry Fairlie Britain: only good for a giggle now

Washington It is hard to get used to the fact that Europe has become a front page news in America. Prime Minister at all, her name is Shirley Williams.

In a way that is odd. When this is a new and even surprising development. Not only is Europe news. Very important people, including the President, are making speeches about it. Even press secretaries at the White House now have to know where Europe is.

Europe has been discovered by America, but as unintentionally as America was discovered by Columbus. Setting off last January to settle things in Central America, in Africa, in Asia, and the Middle East, this administration suddenly found Europe in its path.

At first, like Columbus when he came across America, it did not believe that Europe really existed. It held the familiar American view: Europe is Nato. Nato is American; and Nato does what America tells it to do. In a fairly decent way, Europe was referred to as America's ally, but ally did not mean partner. Ally certainly did not mean being equal.

If Europeans obeyed, they were good allies. If they disobeyed or even complained, they were told to pull their weight. But in the past few weeks all this has changed. The most striking evidence was the President's remarkable speech on the nuclear arms race, delivered before Mr Brezhnev's visit to West Germany. As one inquired here and there who had a hand in writing the speech — was it Mr Alexander Haig, or Mr Richard Allen? — the most emphatic answer finally was "Herr Schmidt".

Editorials, to some extent inspired by official guidance, said weightily that Europeans could now take comfort from the fact that their voice, at least, was heard. But the speech itself was only the centrepiece of a profound reversal of the Administration's attitude to the Soviet Union and therefore to western Europe.

To some extent before the speech, but increasingly since, Europe had become the focus of serious attention. Its news, prominence in the news, and even in conversation around the city, is not the manufacture of journalism. It comes directly from the Administration at the highest level.

But what is this Europe, which now has a voice in Washington? First and foremost, it is Helmut Schmidt. It is West Germany. Schmidt cannot lift a teacup in Bonn without saucers rattling in Washington. Even if he does nothing, he gets front page coverage.

To some extent, France and Francois Mitterrand are found to be just as interesting, and are given increasing attention. A powerful statement commending Mitterrand and his policies was recently issued by the influential Foreign Affairs Institute at Johns Hopkins University. No one can doubt that, now the Administration has got over its initial fear that France would be run by Communists, it takes France quite seriously. It expects Mitterrand to be "difficult", but not in the same way as de Gaulle, and it recognizes that an ally can be difficult.

But while the front page stories and the editorials now talk of Europe and earnestly examine its leaders' pronouncements, one rarely finds the names of Margaret Thatcher or Lord Carrington.

No Englishman of my acquaintance in Washington ever passes the great spread of the British embassy here without wondering if its majestic and expensive building is really worth the money. They are valuable real estate. They would fetch a lot of money. China might put in a bid for it to house its cultural attaché.

As far as one understands its functions, the British embassy is now a base for young ladies from Kensington to search for an American husband, preferably the heir to a Chicago meat packer. The glossy voice of Kensington, the bossy voice of Kensington, the charming and his charming and captures unsuspecting billionaires.

The special relationship was built at a second and even third level of British and American officials who worked closely together on winning the war, and then on winning the peace with such projects as the Marshall Plan. Those levels of intimate, official, and even semi-official cooperation no longer exist. The special relationship is now as far as it exists at all, is mutual anticipation of the pitter-patter of tiny royal feet.

For this is the Kingston, the Percy and Croyley. For Iver and Iwer Crouch End. My contribution was the Miser's Prayer, written by John Ward of Hackney who was expelled from the House of Commons in 1727. This is a very long poem, but I have nine copies in the City of London, and likewise I have lately purchased one estate in fee simple in the county of Essex; I research these to preserve the two counties of Middlesex and Essex from fire and earthquakes; and as I have a mortgage in Hertfordshire, I beg of These likewise to have an eye of compassion on that county; and for the rest of the country, I trust they may deal with them as they see fit.

"O Lord, enable the Bank to answer their bills, and make all my debtors good men. Give a prosperous voyage and return to the Mermaid sloop, because I have insured it; and as Thou hast said the day of the wicked are but short, I trust. The Thou wilt not forget Thy promise as I have purchased an estate in reversion, which will be mine on the death of that prodigal young man, Sir J. L."

One of the young officers (like the others, resplendent in scarlet jacket) topped it with the story of David, who had been accused of starting a forest fire, was initially acquitted because the prosecution's case against him depended on a prayer he had uttered, and which had been overheard by a policeman. David had dropped to his knees and said, "Oh God, please let me get away with it, just this once."

His lawyer had claimed this conversation was a privileged communication, meant to be heard by God, not the police. Initially the judge had agreed and acquitted David, but an appeal court overturned the decision, deciding that God was not legally a "person".

Peter Watson

The lesson for Egypt in Iran's tragedy

Edward Mortimer reappraises the latest book by the Egyptian journalist Mohamed Heikal in the light of his imprisonment by President Sadat and release last week on the personal orders of Sadat's successor.

Since readers of *The Times* had an opportunity to sample Mr Heikal's book in serial form in July, hundreds, if not thousands of people have been executed in Iran. President Bani-Sadr has turned up in France, his successor has been blown up in Tehran, Mr Heikal has been thrown into prison by President Sadat, President Sadat has been assassinated and his successor, Mr Mubarak, has released Mr Heikal.

All of which proves, not that *The Return of the Apatollah* has been overtaken

by events, but rather that both it and its author remain extremely topical. The book is now on sale, and remains as readable and illuminating as ever.

Because Heikal was for long the semi-official mouthpiece of Nasser, because he played a role in the power struggle which followed Nasser's death, and now also because he has been a political prisoner, one tends to think of him as a politician. He himself, however, has always insisted that he is first and foremost a journalist, and that claim is triumphantly vindicated in this book. It is very much a journalist's book — indeed, an outstanding example of the genre — and not a political tract.

But that does not mean it is free from bias, or that it

has no political message. We are all biased in one way or another; Heikal's bias is perhaps a little more obvious to western readers because they are less likely to share his point of view.

The book is a study of the Iranian revolution, not through the eyes of a western journalist sharing his own assumptions but through those of a nationalist from another Muslim country, who has been in Iran in many respects, yet shares some crucial experiences with it.

Heikal first visited Iran in 1950-1. The parallel between the situations of Iran and Egypt at that time is striking. Both were in the throes of a bitter struggle to establish their national independence against the declining imperial power of Britain — the issue in one case being the continued presence of British troops in the other the control of Iran's main export by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

Both had young monarchs, weak but ambitious, who were caught between the conflicting demands of the

nationalist movement and of the great powers, and who sought to protect themselves by playing off rival wings of the nationalist movement against each other. In both cases the nationalist movement was divided between a secular current, supported by the communists, and an Islamic one whose fringes, at least, were added to political assassination.

In both cases the crisis was eventually solved by the intervention of the armed forces, who were assumed by many people in the area to have been put up to it by the CIA with a view to replacing the United States. The suspicions, as it turned out, were better founded in the Iranian case than in the Egyptian one.

Kermit Roosevelt, the CIA official who has now admitted, in the last resort, that he was wrong, in 1953, also cultivated close relations with Nasser, but Nasser, unlike the Shah and his generals, was not willing to base his foreign policy on a close alliance with the United States. He did indeed,

like the Shah, suppress the old nationalist parties, both leftist and Islamic, but unlike the Shah he was able to assume their mantle because he stood up to the West. By nationalising the Suez Canal he made himself the equivalent of the Shah but of Mosaddeq — only a much younger Mosaddeq, in uniform and in power.

Heikal does not draw this parallel explicitly, but when one tries to discern the wealth of sparkling anecdote, sharp observation and graphic description, one soon realizes that Iran's tragedy, in Heikal's eyes, is that it lacked a Nasser. Heikal is fascinated by Khomeini, but lucid enough to realize that Khomeini is not the leader of the modernizing nationalist revolution that he, Heikal, believes. In Khomeini's role in the last resort, he is a disaster.

Heikal does not draw this parallel explicitly, but when one tries to discern the wealth of sparkling anecdote, sharp observation and graphic description, one soon realizes that Iran's tragedy, in Heikal's eyes, is that it lacked a Nasser. Heikal is fascinated by Khomeini, but lucid enough to realize that Khomeini is not the leader of the modernizing nationalist revolution that he, Heikal, believes. In Khomeini's role in the last resort, he is a disaster.

Heikal does not draw this parallel explicitly, but when one tries to discern the wealth of sparkling anecdote, sharp observation and graphic description, one soon realizes that Iran's tragedy, in Heikal's eyes, is that it lacked a Nasser. Heikal is fascinated by Khomeini, but lucid enough to realize that Khomeini is not the leader of the modernizing nationalist revolution that he, Heikal, believes. In Khomeini's role in the last resort, he is a disaster.

Heikal does not draw this parallel explicitly, but when one tries to discern the wealth of sparkling anecdote, sharp observation and graphic description, one soon realizes that Iran's tragedy, in Heikal's eyes, is that it lacked a Nasser. Heikal is fascinated by Khomeini, but lucid enough to realize that Khomeini is not the leader of the modernizing nationalist revolution that he, Heikal, believes. In Khomeini's role in the last resort, he is a disaster.

Buchanan's

The Scotch of a lifetime

THE BUCHANAN
FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKY
James Buchanan & Co Ltd
Glasgow, London & New York

A new man to reform the dustbins

Mr David Jenkins, a lecturer in criminology at the University of Edinburgh, is to be the new director of the Howard League for Penal Reform. He follows Mr Martin Wright, who is leaving to study for a Ph.D. at the London School of Economics.

Mr Jenkins, who is 32 and just finishing his Ph.D. at the LSE, starts work on January 1 and one of the first things he will have to consider is a change of name, and direction, for the league. The aim now is to broaden it to examine not just prison reform but the rest of the criminal justice system as well. Louis Blom-Cooper, a member of the league's council, who rang me yesterday with this information, would like readers of *The Times* to suggest a new name for the league.

One possibility, however, is to go back to the original name — the Howard Association. This was what the organization was called when it was created in 1865; it did not take on its present name until 1921 when it merged with the League for Penal Reform. Under Jenkins the league, or whatever it decides to call itself, will concentrate more on alternatives to prison, research on whether we need a national prosecuting system and how to keep offenders out of gaol in the first place.

Mr Jenkins, who was selected from a short-list of nine (including senior members of the prison service), is chiefly known for the way he straightened out Ellison House, an adult probation hostel in south London. When he arrived, its probationers were notorious for their regular appearances before the courts. In six months he was warden of the hostel and the men in it had become more settled.

Yankee knowhow

One hopes that Mr William Clark, the US Deputy Secretary of State who flies to London today at the start of a European tour that will include Ireland and West Germany, will know whose hand he is shaking when he is received in Downing Street or the Foreign Office.

During his confirmation hearings last February Mr Clark, a former California Supreme Court judge and a close crony of the President, displayed a splendid ignorance on almost all matters involving foreign affairs. "Do you know the name of the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, or of South Africa?" he was asked. "What do you think about Israeli settlements on the West Bank? Should the United States recognize Taiwan? What are your views on nuclear non-proliferation?" To all of these questions, you may remember, Mr Clark lamely responded: "I do not have a personal view" or "I do not have a position on the point."

Despite his evident ignorance of foreign affairs, the senate overwhelmingly confirmed his appointment because, as Senator Charles Percy, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, put

THE TIMES DIARY

Lord Rawlinson, the former attorney-general, would appear to be especially popular among Fleet Street editors. I hear that both Sir John Junor, editor of the Express, and Mr David English, editor of the Daily Mail, sought to retain the peer to represent them in their forthcoming appearance in the High Court. Both are accused of

contempt of court over articles they published during the trial of Dr Richard Arthur, now convicted of the murder of a Down's Syndrome baby. On this occasion the Mail picked the Express, and Sir John would now be represented by Robert Alexander, the QC who defended the cricketing authorities when Kerry Packer and three players, John Snow, Tony Greg and Michael Proctor, brought an action against their banning.

"The President has told me how much he wants Bill Clark for this job," Reagan, it was darkly rumoured at the time, wanted Clark in the State Department in order to keep an eye on Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State — the "unguided missile" of the Reagan administration.

Clark, who dropped out of college and law school, was also confirmed because his administrative talents are well known. As he explained at the time, he had been hired to run the foreign service and he could learn about policy while on the job.

Common touch I am told that the most common names for ugly sisters in pantomime this year are "Tina" and "Tiana". Can anyone confirm this? (Incidentally, this is written from beginning to end without a tea-break.)

Prayer meeting

Prayer is not, in my experience, one of the more popular topics of conversation at meal or any other times. So I was agreeably surprised the other night in the officers' mess with the Welsh Guards in St James's Palace (they are the Windsor Castle guard for this month), when the conversation turned to a consideration of wit in prayer. One contribution, which is not new but was to me, is the London bus conductor's prayer:

Our Father, Which art in Hendon, Harrow be thy name, Thy Kingston come, Thy Wimbledon, In Erith as it is in Hendon, Give us this day our Berkhams, And forgive us our Westminster. As we forgive them that Westminster against us.

Prayer is not, in my experience, one of the more popular topics of conversation at meal or any other times. So I was agreeably surprised the other night in the officers' mess with the Welsh Guards in St James's Palace (they are the Windsor Castle guard for this month), when the conversation turned to a consideration of wit in prayer. One contribution, which is not new but was to me, is the London bus conductor's prayer:

Our Father, Which art in Hendon, Harrow be thy name, Thy Kingston come, Thy Wimbledon, In Erith as it is in Hendon, Give us this day our Berkhams, And forgive us our Westminster. As we forgive them that Westminster against us.

Common touch I am told that the most common names for ugly sisters in pantomime this year are "Tina" and "Tiana". Can anyone confirm this? (Incidentally, this is written from beginning to end without a tea-break.)



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WANTED: EUROPEAN VISION

Britain and Greece are the only members of the European Community in which the fact of membership is still a major political issue. For Britain this means that while the politicians of other member states must cope with grumbles about how the Community works, and with demands to defend more vigorously their national interests, British politicians are forced into taking up more fundamental positions on one side or other of the barricades.

This colours Britain's whole relationship with the Community. It keeps alive doubts about Britain among Europeans, and it hampers rational debate about Europe among Britons. It also puts the British government unnecessarily on the defensive. In the Commons on Monday Mrs Thatcher admitted her disappointment at the failure of last week's summit. But she seemed to feel obliged to put a rather better gloss on it than it deserved, and under questioning she was pushed into talking more about the safeguarding of national interests than about creative ideas for the future.

It is, of course, in her nature to do that. She does not feel the inspiration of the European Community in her bones. She accepts it intellectually, and politically she has not done badly out of it. Her fight to reduce the British contribution was a triumph though it cost her some frayed tempers in the Community. What she says about the Community is mostly sound: in the Commons she

balanced her remarks about each nation fighting its own corner with several nods towards the basic common interests of members. But her character is essentially insular, and her concerns primarily domestic. When this is reinforced by the political pressures of Labour opposition and public scepticism it goes some way towards explaining why Britain's half-year in the European chair will end inconclusively unless the foreign ministers pull agreement out of a hat before Christmas.

It is easy to make excuses. The Community moves slowly at the best of times, and is now confronting some particularly difficult conflicts of national interest. This year it has been further delayed by the French election. Yet Britain could have offered more push and more vision if its internal politics had been less cramped. If someone with vision does not soon lift the debate out of its slough, public disaffection is likely to spread. Already the West Germans are becoming understandably sorer about the huge budgetary burden which now falls upon them; and if the balance is redressed it will be someone else's turn to complain.

The basic trouble for public opinion — and not just in Britain — is that so much of what the Community does defies common sense, even when it seems to protect national interests. For instance, anyone can see that if one of the purposes of the Community is to take a bit from the rich and give a bit to the poor it is wholly absurd that

revenue should be raised through the vagaries of an out-of-date agricultural policy which, in some cases benefits the rich and penalizes the poor.

Of course the solutions are technically and politically difficult but unless the Community begins soon to show more signs of shaking itself out of its ingrained habits of thought and procedure it is going to look increasingly out of touch with reality. This is, after all, a relatively propitious moment. Rising world food prices have reduced the cost of Community subsidies and made Britain's contribution even lower than expected. The general atmosphere is relatively good. National passions are relatively quiescent. Yet instead of this opening the way to movement it seems to have taken some of the urgency out of the pressure for reform.

While the foreign ministers continue their efforts, Mrs Thatcher could still make a useful contribution by moving more rapidly towards joining the EMS. The excuse that the pound is now a petro-currency is not valid. Nor is she right if she thinks she can bargain British membership for French concessions on agriculture. Beyond that, even after Britain relinquishes the chair to Belgium at the end of the month she can still take a more creative attitude towards reform. It might even be useful to the government in domestic politics — more useful than the excuses and delays which in effect give the Government a weary air.

WANTED: A PLAN FOR SKILLED PEOPLE

Later this month the new employment secretary, Mr. Norman Tebbit will make his long awaited policy statement on new training initiatives. He should not shrink it. Never in the last fifty years has there been quite the same opportunity to go for bold and imaginative departure. Nor has there ever been quite the need.

Even at the best of times it has been clear that Britain has lagged dispiritingly behind Germany and our main European competitors in the standards and coverage of its basic employment training. The latest study published by the National Institute of Social and Economic Research has merely confirmed what has been apparent to most observers of Britain's industrial decline for several generations — that Germany's insistence that nearly all school leavers receive vocational training has helped put it far ahead of this country in terms of its technical skills and productivity. On the National Institute's figures, while 60 per cent of German workers have skilled qualifications, fewer than 30 per cent of British workers have the equivalent of apprenticeships or City and Guilds certificates. Some two-thirds of British workers have no vocational qualifications at all compared with a third in Germany.

As the recession has deepened, Britain's ramshackle structure of apprenticeships and training is actually getting worse. The numbers of youngsters recruited for craft and technician training in the engineering industry is the lowest since records began 15 years ago. Despite all the efforts of the Manpower

Services Commission, it is still training that has proved to be one of the greatest victims of industry's straitened financial circumstances, while the general political atmosphere has hardly been improved by the Government's decision to abolish 17 of the statutory industrial training boards and to throw financing of the remainder back on industry's voluntary shoulder.

It is still not too late to start anew. If the apprenticeship system is collapsing, this could have its benefits. Even the Germans with a highly-structured system of training are finding it difficult to cope with the flexibility of skills demanded by the newer technologies. The British apprenticeship system has long suffered both from its reliance on the willingness of individual firms to train employees who might then leave them and from the unions' reluctance to change old traditions of duration and entry requirements. New demands can now be met by new approaches. The political climate is right in that the Government has now committed itself to major expenditure to meet the problems of unemployed school leavers. Few even among the most hardened backbenchers would dispute that this is better spent on training for the future than simply subsidizing jobs. Even the unions seem more willing than in the past to accept new training patterns so long as there is a government commitment behind them.

The foundation for a radical new programme is there in the individual initiatives of the Manpower Services

Commission and the broader strategy of its paper "A new Training Initiative." In particular the Government should now aim to provide all school leavers with some form of intermediate training. It should expand the present small-scale unified vocational preparatory training, for those finding jobs, not at the paltry pace of universal coverage by 1990 but by 1985 at the latest, with preference towards one-year traineeships. And this should be unified with the training provided under the Youth Opportunities Programme. At the same time, opportunities for retraining and further training should be opened up for adults of whatever age, particularly those made redundant through the expansion of skills centres, in-house courses and the Open Tech courses.

What the Germans, French and Swiss and others have shown is that only government action can achieve such objectives. It does not have to do the training itself. It can, if it prefers, impose an inescapable legal requirement on the employer, refunding at least part of the cost, and it can stimulate new initiatives through, say, regionally-based bodies. But act it must. Two things can frustrate the best hopes of the unions, and political timidity. The unions are unhappy at the idea of training wage. The fear of cheap labour is short-sighted but understandable; unless we are less intelligent and sincere than the Europeans it should be possible to devise a scheme which is viable and also has sensible safeguards against exploitation. The political will depends on Mr. Tebbit.

EQUAL TIME FOR EQUAL CHANCES

The Social Democrats have at least won the right to put their case for a fair share of broadcasting time to the Committee on Party Political Broadcasting. This is the committee composed of representatives from the five other political parties and the broadcasting authorities. It determines the allocation of party election broadcasts, and of party political broadcasts between elections.

It is usually concerned with issues of only relatively minor importance because the basic rules were laid down long ago. But these rules are founded on the principle that broadcasting time should be allotted according to the number of votes cast for each party at the previous general election, with a provision to ensure that a party fielding a minimum of fifty candidates does not go without a broadcast of its own. This broad framework, within which the precise arrangements could be hammered out each time, was appropriate enough at a time of political stability when the essential question at each election was which of the two main parties would form the next government. There were reasonable doubts even then as to whether such a system was fair to the

Liberals, or sometimes to the Nationalist parties. But it was not manifestly absurd.

All the indications are, however, that it would be an example of legalistic pedantry at its worst to fix the broadcasting rules for the next election according to how the votes were cast last time. There was no such thing as a Social Democratic Party in 1979, so it would be impossible to judge its claim to broadcasting time at the next election by its failure to win any votes at the last one. The present evidence, according to by-elections as well as opinion polls, suggests that the next election will be essentially a three-horse race between Conservative, Labour and Alliance candidates. That is the political reality which ought to be reflected in the broadcasting arrangements.

The best way to do this would be for the governing principle to be the number of candidates that each party, or group, is putting into the field. If the Alliance manages to fight the election as a single entity it should be treated as a single party. This would provide broadly equal conditions for political parties of equal size. The obvious objection that will be raised is

that this would enable unrepresentative parties, which have failed over the years to capture any significant public support, to win a disproportionate share of broadcast time simply by putting a large number of certain losers into the field. The National Front would be the most likely beneficiary.

This would in fact be a small price to pay for fair electoral conditions. But there is one reasonable safeguard that could be applied. It should be made more difficult for parties with little public support to field a large number of candidates. We have already argued that to deter cranks the number of voters in the relevant constituency required to sign a candidate's nomination form should be increased from the present derisory figure of ten to 500 or even 1,000. At the same time it would be sensible to raise the deposit that each candidate has to put down. A drastic increase would put an unfair strain on potentially popular but poor parties, but that still leaves room to put up the level from £150 at which it has stood since 1918. That would be £1,500 at today's values. A figure of £500 would be easily bearable.

Labour's way out of Europe

From Sir Anthony Meyer, MP for Flint West (Conservative)

Sir, The more we learn of the Labour Party's plans for withdrawal from the EEC, the more unrealistic they are seen to be. On December 2 we had Mr. Eric Heffer admitting, in your columns, that "Since Britain joined the EEC the pattern of our trade has changed. The old Commonwealth preferences have gone for ever, and then going on to maintain that 'it is therefore of great importance that when we do withdraw, an agreement with the other EEC countries is negotiated and associated status agreed. In that way we would continue to develop trade with the EEC but without the barriers against the outside world which exist today because of EEC membership'."

In fact, of course, if Britain withdraws from the EEC it is virtually impossible that we shall be able to negotiate associated status. Let us however, assume the impossible for arguments sake. In that case we would be bound by the trading rules of the EEC, but without being able to exert any influence to change them. How would that improve matters for us?

What would happen if we did withdraw would be that the other EEC countries, so far from showing us any favour, would be bound to refuse any concessions to us for fear that others might follow our example. We would lose our present tariff-free access to our largest export market, and we would have to fight the EEC for markets in the rest of the world.

Mr. Heffer does not even pose the two key questions. If Britain industry cannot hold its own in the guaranteed free market of the EEC, how is it going to compete in the much rougher world market? Perhaps by selling cars to Iran. And, once we have lost our present reliability by bolting out of the EEC, just who is going to conclude any kind of firm agreement with us?

Until Mr. Heffer provides some kind of answers to these questions it is impossible to take him seriously as Labour's front bench spokesman on the EEC.

I am, etc.,
ANTHONY MEYER,
Vice-Chairman, Conservative European Affairs Committee, House of Commons, December 1.

Women's rights

From Mrs Mary Stott and Mrs Georgina Ashworth

Sir, As Human Rights Day, December 10, approaches, we should like to draw readers' attention to a human rights instrument that has not yet been ratified by the British Government. The "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women" was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December, 1979, and was open for signature and ratification six months later.

The British Government signed in July this year, but the significant act is ratification. Decision to ratify the Convention will be on March 5 next year, for 28 states have become party to the convention, bringing it into force. Responsibility for ratification lies with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in consultation with other departments of government.

The convention notes, not a little sadly, that despite other international instruments, including the Declaration of Human Rights, "extensive discrimination against women continues to exist". It would be fitting that the United Kingdom Government, led by a woman Prime Minister, should ratify this instrument on the date when all victims of exploitation, discrimination, degradation, oppression and persecution are remembered: Human Rights Day.

Yours sincerely,
MARY STOTT, Chairman,
G. ASHWORTH, Convenor,
International Committee,
The Women's Society,
25 Wilton Road,
SW1

Paisley and Ulster

From Mr. K. N. McGill

Sir, Miss Dervla Murphy (November 28) finds it tempting to dismiss Ian Paisley as a half-crazed buffoon because he has succumbed to the temptation to call Mrs Thatcher a liar and a traitor.

But there is nothing personal about these courtesies. A few years ago you yourself described him as "the Rev. Dr. Paisley, although the only formal qualification he held was a diploma from Ballymena Tech."

He is someone who has beaten the system which treated and still treats his people with contempt; he and Rory O'Brady of the IRA are brothers under the skin. Paisley believes that God is with him and O'Brady believes that history will absolve him.

To beat this sort of brew requires more than adding a shriller element to the contempt. Anyway, Paisley's flock know that person-to-person, away from the screen, he is a caring minister even if his training was unworthy.

Yours etc.,
K. N. MCGILL,
Granite Hills,
Grange Walk,
Faversham,
Kent.

Scarman and positive discrimination

From the Reverend Harry Potter

Sir, One of the commonest criticisms of the Scarman report is that it takes no account of, and indeed denies the existence of, institutional racism in this country. Its existence is debatable; what is not open to doubt is that many people believe it exists, and this is a major stumbling block to getting black to put their faith in, or participate in, the normal procedures for social advance. If people have no trust in our organs of government, or education, or law, if they doubt that white judges and an all-white Parliament will really represent their interests or enact equitable laws, or that a white police force will administer the law justly, then their fears and frustrations may be channelled into violence.

Lord Scarman has already urged that the police make all efforts to recruit officers from ethnic minority groups. Imperial College have said that they will make allowances for the poorer educational attainments of children from deprived areas. This is the sort of "positive discrimination" which most universities make for mature students, and which Oxbridge colleges carry out for candidates from comprehensive schools who are often admitted on A-level results and interview without sitting the entrance exams for which their schools are ill-equipped to prepare them. The final degree standard remains the same for all. Allowance is made for those with ability but who have suffered some relative educational disadvantage.

So far so good. It is most important, however, that the political parties make an effort to prove their commitment to racial justice. First of all they should nominate several black or Asian peers for the New Year's Honours List. This would be an immediate and direct way of showing that we wish to allow blacks to participate in the political structures of our country.

Secondly, all the parties could nominate an appreciable number of black candidates for the next general election. In both these actions the major parties would be working together, sharing the possible political approval and demonstrating a concerted determination to get something done.

This would go a long way to restore or enhance the confidence of the ethnic minorities in our political institutions; it would demonstrate dramatically that their commitment to racial bar, mere lip service and it would give the lie to the belief that our institutions are racist.

If our police force and schools, our legal and government organs can prove that they are instruments for the fair advancement of all, then we may go a long way to preventing rioting in the streets or the equally dispiriting apathetic nihilism of so many of our young people.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY POTTER,
6 Walnut House,
Clyde Street,
Deyford, SE8,
November 28.

Law on secret ballots

From Mr. J. S. Westley and others

Sir, The Secretary for Employment must now commit himself to legislative options open to him. We write to persuade him to decommit himself from today's statement of intent in the House of Commons (Parliamentary Report, November 24), largely motivated by the Crosby by-election, and to confine his Bill to making compulsory the election of all trade union executives by secret postal ballot from the shop-floor stewards upwards, and the ballot to be funded, if so requested, by the Government.

This is a measure which is impeccably democratic and one which the majority of the people of our country would wholeheartedly support and certainly not regard as a policy of confrontation with the unions.

Significantly the broad left and the left wing of the Labour Party await in high expectation of Mr. Tebbit succumbing to right-wing Tory pressure for legislation along the lines of today's statement. Even more significant that the broad left's relish for such a policy of confrontation is the fact that they fear the secret ballot like Dracula does the crucifix.

In making his decision Mr. Tebbit must keep in mind that the secret ballot would eliminate the

Britain unthinkable in recent years, police battles have almost become a feature of life in some of the big cities and this is something for which the public and not the police should be thoroughly ashamed.

Of course the police must not be biased against one section of the community, but if in the daily experience of their duty they actually find that one section of the community is responsible for by far the highest percentage of the violent crime in a particular area their search for culprits is bound to lead them towards that section in making their investigations.

If an Englishman chooses to live in another country in Europe, Africa, Asia or elsewhere he must respect the laws of that country or take the consequences and so indeed must it be with those who visit our shores and wish to take up residence in our beautiful and richly privileged country with the many blessings of our traditional way of life which we treasure and do not wish to see vanishing.

With all its shortcomings it may safely be said that nowhere in the world is the law more careful to preserve the freedom and dignity of the individual than in Britain. But our traditional respect for the law and for those appointed to enforce it must be jealously guarded.

Any show of violence against the police is a very serious crime indeed, calling for a very severe penalty, for when laws are respected can the liberty of the individual be upheld and maintained and this is doubly important at a time when fifth-column elements are being systematically planted in troubled areas for the specific purpose of fomenting strife for political ends which, if successful, would incidentally replace all freedom with oppression.

Yours sincerely,
H. I. F. RYAN,
The Old Rectory,
Letcombe Bassett,
Wantage,
Oxfordshire,
November 27.

From Councillor Trevor Brown
Sir, It is a great pity that Lord Scarman has failed to take the opportunity to make a major step forward in the democratic control of the police. He identified a damaging isolation of the police from the public and the need to have a greater independent element in dealing with complaints against officers.

Both of these aspects are dealt with reasonably satisfactorily in all other areas of local government by the full involvement of elected representatives. The simple solution is therefore to give elected representatives the same role in the management of the police as they have in roads, education, fire-fighting, social services and other aspects of our community life, instead of the ineffectual role they are currently permitted to play in police authorities.

It is sometimes said that a police officer could not control a riot while taking advice from a councillor standing behind him. But councillors do not stand behind teachers dealing with an unruly class, or fire chiefs tackling a difficult fire. Councillors do, however, decide policy and guidelines and institute inquiries when necessary.

At a time when all parties are pressing for the strengthening of local government, it would have been helpful if the Scarman report had done the same.

Yours etc.,
TREVOR BROWN,
2 The Glade,
Newbury,
Berkshire.

cynical exploitation of the anti-democratic aspects of the block vote system and make effective the real opinion of the rank and file, thereby releasing a force, hitherto mainly unharnessed, based on their common sense and their true interests.

As active trade unionists, but writing in a personal capacity, we urge members of all parties to put pressure on the Minister to give secret ballots top priority.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. WESTLEY (Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Engineering Section),
M. A. OGIER (Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff),
S. J. NICHOLS (Society of Civil and Public Servants),
S. T. COTTINGHAM (Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs),
W. J. STAFF (Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians),
JEFF DAVIS (National Union of Students),
J. BEASLEY (National and Local Government Officers' Association),
PETER ARNOTT (Civil and Public Services Association),
9 Daleway,
Sawston,
Cambridge,
November 23

Mr Hayward should not despair. I am aged 19 and confined to a wheelchair and am finding an increasing awareness of the problems during the International Year of the Disabled. British Rail staff and London taxi drivers are most helpful and in response to an appeal from my family British Telecom recently reduced the height of a public telephone at Kings Cross station.

Yours faithfully,
R. SHEARMAN,
Bracken Hill,
Queen Hoo Lane,
Tewin, Hertfordshire,
November 23.

Wheelchairs in cinemas

From Miss R. M. Shearman

Sir, Your correspondent, Derek Hayward (November 28) may like to know that there is an excellent booklet, *London for the Disabled Visitor*, available at newsagents which contains much detailed information on facilities such as access, etc., including cinemas and theatres. Another very useful publication is *British Rail - Guide for the Disabled*, published by the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, which contains access arrangements for numerous railway stations throughout the country.

Memorial trust for Lord Boyle

From Dame Janet Baker and others

Sir, Since the death of Lord Boyle, moving tributes have been paid to his record as public servant, his wide scholarly interests and human sympathies, and his modesty, kindness and courage. Many of his admirers in academic and public life have suggested that his work should be honoured in a permanent fashion.

Lord Boyle spent 11 years as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds, years which he described as his happiest and most fulfilling. He had immersed himself in the university and its concerns; and it seemed meet and right that the university, together with friends connected with different spheres of his life and career, should take the initiative in establishing an Edward Boyle Memorial Trust. The Chancellor of the University, HRH the Duchess of Kent, will be its patron; and the proposal has received the warm approval of Lord Boyle's sister, Mrs Jack Gold.

The fund will be devoted to the advancement of education, learning and music. Among the objects immediately in mind are scholarships, covering part of the very high fees now levied, for overseas students of distinction who could not otherwise come to British universities. Lord Boyle cared deeply for the advancement of music, and especially those with Commonwealth connections.

The trust will provide assistance to the study of music, especially in that department at the University of Leeds; and will also support a concert of high distinction, commemorating Lord Boyle's chairmanship of the jury at the Leeds International Piano Competition. We give these as examples; the trustees will support other initiatives, especially those which will forward the many causes with which Lord Boyle was strongly identified.

May we ask all your readers who value Lord Boyle's example to contribute generously? The trust will have charitable status, and gifts by covenant would be particularly appreciated. Contributions should be made payable to the "Edward Boyle Memorial Trust" and should be sent to the Office of the Acting Vice-Chancellor, the University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT.

Yours faithfully,
JANET BAKER, HONK,
WILLIAM BULMER, MICHAEL JAFFE,
PATRICK CROTTY, ROY JENKINS,
FRED DAINTON, HAROLD MACMILLAN,
GLADWIN, ALBERTSLAND,
ANNOLD, WILLIAM TWEEDDLIE,
JOHN CROFT, WILLIAM WALSHE,
EDWARD HEATH, FANNY WATERMAN,
F. H. HINSLY, HAROLD WILSON,
The University of Leeds,
November 26.

Romney Marsh

From Mr D. H. L. Hopkinson

Sir, From Mr. Nighthall's letter (Nov. 28) it might be assumed that all the churches on Romney Marsh are in Kent and the Diocese of Canterbury. In fact the thriving parish of Canterbury and the medieval parish church of East Guldeford are both in East Sussex and Diocese of Chichester. We are proud that we have been able to maintain worship and the marvellous building at East Guldeford despite the small population.

All Sussex men have known for centuries that we conduct our affairs and cricket better than Kent. Would the Romney Marsh parishes like to come over now into the Diocese of Chichester?

Yours faithfully,
D. H. L. HOPKINSON,
Chairman, Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance,
St John's Priory,
Poling,
Arundel,
Sussex,
November 29.

The Bulldog's grip

From Mr Christopher Godfrey

Sir, Colonel Capadose's appraisal of the Bulldog wheel clamp (November 30) seems to ignore one obvious consideration.

There cannot be many countries in the world where, to prevent a car causing an obstruction, a device is attached that ensures the obstruction will continue for the rest of the day. You might as well cure traffic jams by building barricades every morning and taking them down several hours later.

Yours faithfully,
C. GODFREY,
153 Lee High Road, SE13.

SDP philosophy

From Mr Kenneth Moir

Sir, The SDP has been criticised for its lack of policies. Perhaps that is its strength. Recent events seem to indicate that the voters prefer pragmatism to dogmatism.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH MOIR,
45 Broadwater Gardens,
Ham,
Richmond,
Surrey,
November 29.

Matrimonial burdens

From Mr Robert Hargreaves

Sir, I am surprised no one has yet pointed out the implications of these findings for the divorce courts. Deprived of a wife's services valued at £204 a week, should not deserted husbands now be able to claim this sum as part of their maintenance in order to pay for a replacement? Yours faithfully,
ROBERT HARGREAVES,
17 Kison Road, SW13.

THE ARTS

Television
Luxurious returns

"There remains Sebastian", wrote Kingsley Amis in the course of chucking a few well-aimed custard pies at *Brideshead Revisited* (Granada) in the *TL5* the week before last. "Every time I read the book I ask myself... One of the many curious things about Waugh's most popular and most reviled novel is that those who have long pronounced it dead of fatal flaws and frequently eased its way to the grave cannot resist returning to the corpse to confirm the causes of death and, indeed, to make sure that death has actually occurred."

Behind these obsessional autopsies lies the suspicion that it may or, worse, that parts of it may — still be alive. For if *Brideshead* is no more than a pathetic, snobbish and empty claim on the goodwill of the upper classes and an English Catholic god, cast in the form of a novel whose leading characters are all either beastly or dull, why does the phantom myth sail on, and the sense of grief and loss, even when removed from the *Flory* family altogether and reduced to abstraction, remain so moving and so strong?

In the film the answer is plain: acting, direction, music and design all work gloriously and consistently to the same end. Episode Eight, "Brideshead Deserted", exemplified its skill in three particular areas: in drawing, as all long serials must, on memories of what we have already seen; in easing us over sketchy sections of the novel in which ten years pass

in a paragraph by using brief scenes of great visual beauty; and in introducing, at each stage, new characters and relationships which come sharply alive at once. As Ryder's delicious, sad, and slightly foolish wife Jane Asher is as perfect as Phoebe Nicholls's Cordelia has been throughout. It is luxurious, and it does luxuriate, but even at its most attenuated it is not dull.

The same could not, I am afraid, be said of Malcolm Feuerstein's *An Arranged Marriage* (ATV), which was a well-intentioned and sometimes informative synthesis of Punjabi marriage customs as they survive and change in the West Midlands, based on interviews in the area and presented at length — here was the mistake — by professional actors in dramatic documentary form. It was not without charm but offered a great deal too much background in a naive and educational manner, more suited to 9.30 in the morning than 10.30 at night.

Professionalism at the *Brideshead* level was on show in *Protest* (BBC 1), where Nigel Hawthorne played, superbly, both the conformist and the dissident in Vaclav Havel's masterly little play. Czechs find *Protest* horribly funny. I gather, and they are entitled to, but Ionesco and Alistair Clark, who respectively produced and directed, went instead for bitter ironies and, that decision taken, Mr Hawthorne displayed them to the hilt.

Michael Ratcliffe

Lunchtime service in Soho

"She was the original punter with amazing taste." Irving Wardle examines the theatrical legacy of Verity Bargate (right).

"A bird is running a theatre, the top one-act play theatre in the country, probably the world, she writes three novels, she's running a home, bringing up two kids, and dying of cancer — she's got no time to waste." The voice, built to carry the length of *Millie Dred* on a foggy night, belongs to Rob Hoskins, here paying his respects to Verity Bargate, the director of the Soho Poly Theatre until her death last May.

Hoskins has some reason for raising a glass to her memory. As the gangster Harold Shand in *The Long Good Friday*, and later in Jonathan Miller's *Othello*, he is everybody's favourite Cockney actor. Now he is about to break into Southern Californian territory in the National Theatre production of Sam Shepard's *True West*. But there was a time in the mid-Seventies when he thought he would never work again.

"I was in the middle of divorce proceedings and I'd lost contact. I couldn't talk to people or relate to anything. I was locked up inside myself. So I wrote this play, *The Bystander*, about a Peeping Tom who lives his life through this young girl next door. She has an abortion and dies; he watches her die and he disintegrates. In the play he's talking to plants. In real life I was going over to Regent's Park talking to ducks. Verity could see what I was going through and she said 'You've got to do this, you've got to live it out on stage', and, bang, it happened. She'd have the cleaning lady in at rehearsals and ask what she thought of it. When it opened I was doing the show and she came on to see the play. But she made me realize that if I could perform a one-act play I wasn't as badly off as I thought I was. Amazing woman. Game as a peacock."

Other people could tell similar stories about the daring, wit and loyalty she gave them, and the

fine productions she conjured out of their work. The Poly in her time was a good place to start (Mary O'Malley and James Robson were among those it launched), and it had a soft spot for underdogs. But it was never a theatrical soup-kitchen. To a unique degree it combined non-exclusiveness with high professionalism; the only clue to the formula being summed up in the mystery factor of "Verity's taste". Hoskins, again, is speaking for other people as well when he says "Her spirit must be continued."

Up to a point it is continuing. She was planning the theatre's advance programme until the end of her life, and one of the last plays she commissioned — a piece by Tony Marchant (author of *Thick as Thieves*) — arrives at the Poly next January. Also the film rights of her novel *Children Crossing* have been sold for production by Barry Hanson (who made *The Long Good Friday*). But beyond these transitory links with the past, another means has been devised of keeping her name alive.

In the opinion of her friends and colleagues (and in mine too), she was the most persistent and effective encourager of new writing talent in the English theatre since George Devine. And just as the father of the Royal Court found his memorial in the George Devine Award, so will she find hers in a Verity Bargate Award, to be given annually for "a play suitable for production in the Soho Poly's lunchtime season" (terms that reflect her dislike of distinguishing between short and full-

length plays, and her hatred of labelling anything as "the best").

The award consists of a prize of £1,000 and a guaranteed production; also the winning entry and the two runners-up will be published by Eyre-Methuen. Entries are being invited from January 31, to coincide with a fund-raising night at the Round House — including extracts from Soho Poly plays, readings from the novels, and other aspects of her work — and the award will be made on August 6, which commemorates her birthday and the dropping of the Hiroshima bomb.

There is an inbuilt tendency for artistic awards to become institutionalized as their originating purpose subsides into committee work and today's open market becomes tomorrow's closed shop. But there is a good chance in this case that the door will be kept open. For one thing, the judges announced so far amount to a cross-section of the profession, including acting (Hoskins, Charlotte Corwell), writing (Barrie Keeffe, Howard Brenton), publishing (Nick Hern) and women's theatre (Ann Mitchell) — all of them people who knew her very well and capable of making a shrewd guess at "Verity's taste."

The other hopeful point is that, even though the terms omit to say so, nothing larger than an hour-long piece will qualify for the Poly's lunchtime season. A short play no less than a full-length play may be a masterpiece. But short plays never make anybody a fortune; they never turn into the sort of "property" that diverts the author from writing into creative

accountancy and keeping track of his German royalties.

In 1977 it happened that the Poly transferred seven plays to television, but that success changed nobody's life, and left the theatre free to continue in its chosen course of fertile semi-obscure. Bargate once commissioned a piece from Barrie Keeffe, saying she could only pay three actors but the theatre did have some corrugated iron. The result was Keeffe's *Abide With Me* trilogy, in which to the day I die I shall remember Karl Johnson as the impossibly enraged Cup supporter leaping up, hammering, and beating his head on that iron wall. Subsequently, *Abide With Me* went on in Dusseldorf with levels that went up and down on hydraulic lifts on a budget of £30,000. Keeffe meanwhile was off writing *Sus*, another shoestring piece suitable for production in the Poly's lunchtime season.

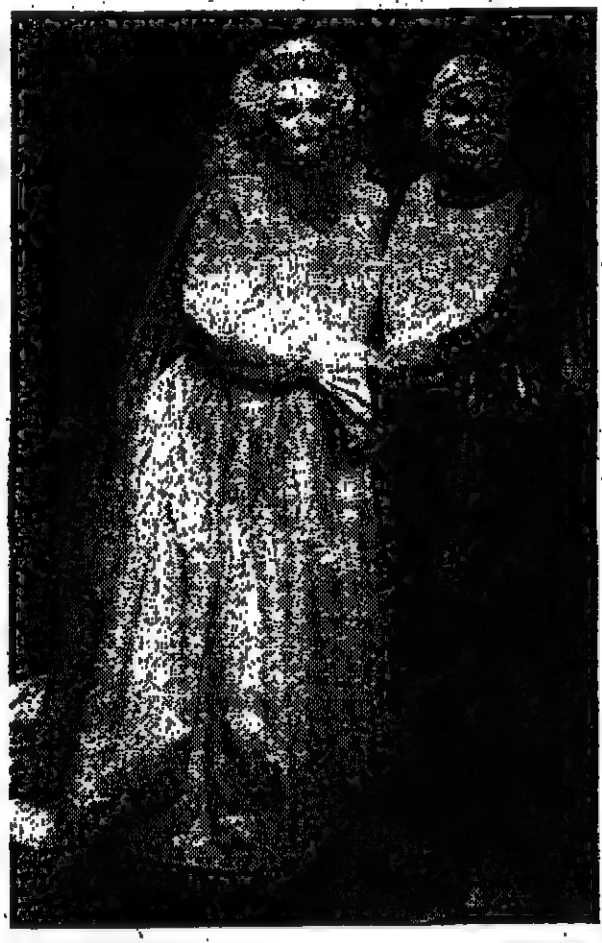
Over the past 30 years, the British theatre has killed almost as many writers as it has discovered, each one broken under the millstone of early success. Specialists in short plays, on the other hand, are prone to the discouragements of unrewarded obscurity. What the Bargate Award could do is to adjust the balance in their favour — offering a bit more money, a bit more public attention for writers who are doing a good work today and will go on to do good work tomorrow.

"If," says Hoskins, "I had a chance of seeing *Ben Hur* in stereophonic circarama with Charlton Heston's dipping in glycerine, or seeing my Uncle Fred doing the whole thing, horses as well, in the front room with a towel for a toga, I'd be going for him every time. Same with Verity. She was the original punter with amazing taste. She was a street artist, creating a paving stone that's beautiful. Then the rain comes down and it's gone."



Opera

Leading ladies together in Paris



The elysian duet of Montserrat Caballe (left) and Marilyn Horne in "Semiramide"; and Kiri Te Kanawa (above), a fine Marschallin in the making.

Semiramide/
Der Rosenkavalier

No sounds more beguiling are likely to come from the opera stage this year than those of Montserrat Caballe and Marilyn Horne interweaving their voices in Rossini. The two ladies are singing in *Semiramide* at the moment in the Théâtre des Champs Elysées, where the Paris Opera is in temporary exile while alterations are made to its home theatre, and those who care about beauty should beg or thieve a ticket to hear them.

The oddest element of a rare evening is that the two ladies should have been so little heard together in Rossini. Caballe showed herself a remarkable interpreter of that composer's music back in her earliest recitals for RCA, yet at Covent Garden all too often she has been cast in dramatic parts which have not always shown her at her best — Aida, Leonora, Violetta. Horne is now approaching veteran status, although the never allows anyone to guess it: it is well over a quarter of a century since she dubbed Dorothy Dandridge's voice in *Carmen Jones*. She has dug deep into the Rossini repertory, including *Semiramide* with Sutherland, yet it is Caballe who really strikes the sparks from her.

The sparks of competition are exactly what Rossini, and *Semiramide* in particular, requires. He wrote his opera according to a set pattern of a display aria for coloratura soprano and coloratura mezzo in each act coupled with a pair of lengthy duets to dispel the impression of any rivalry that might have been generated. No opera composer was more professional. In the concert hall — and recording studio — it is the arias which have survived, notably *Semiramide's* "Bel lugubrious" as she waits in the Hanging Gardens of Babylon for the return of her general, Arsace, and his entry cavatina "Eccomi affine in Babilonia". Rossini's librettist Rossi might have traded in lofty sentiments but he used some fairly prosaic words. But in the theatre, with Caballe and Horne, it is the duets which enrapture above all, the vocal fireworks, the most delicate filigree. The match of the two voices seems to have been made in some musical elysium.

Bernard Lefort brought Caballe and Horne together the summer before last in *Semiramide* at Aix when he was still running the festival there. Since then Pier Luigi Pizzi's quirky production, which teeters on the edge of the ridiculous, has been on the move, to Genoa, to Turin (with Ricciardi and Valentini-Terrani), to San Francisco (with Caballe and Horne, as at Aix) and now to Paris, a still stopping point since Lefort is Administrator of the Opera.

Pizzani, one of a growing and often trustworthy breed of designer-producers, takes a fantastic view of Rossini's chosen libretto, loosely based

on Voltaire. Babylon looks like a giant Persil commercial, white, right down to the subsidiary characters, who look as if they have been chipped, poor things, plaster and all, from some enormous frieze. Their arms protrude from sandwhich-boards, like whitewashed playing-card figures from Alice.

Marmoreal opera, indeed! *Semiramide* and Arsace alone are excused such eccentricities, although both are topped with silvery wigs the texture of candyfloss. The production consists mainly of swishing enormous cloaks across the stage, either to express emotion or to indicate a change from aria to cabaletta. Pizzi's libretto is an amalgam of all that detractors of opera find preposterous in the genre, right through to the close where Arsace mistakes the ample form of *Semiramide* (who has by then been revealed as his mother) as the lean and hungry villain of the piece and runs a sword through her. (Mention not the name of Oedipus.) Arsace hovers between suicide and rejoicing that the gods will now lift their curse from Babylon; with the minimum of debate he opts for the latter and the first of the two alternative endings Rossini wrote for the opera.

So much has to be endured

in the name of *bel canto* and it is endured with joy when Caballe and Horne are in the peak of vocal condition, performing the music they sing best of all. They inspire one another and they inspire the rest of the cast. Francisco Araiza, the young Mexican tenor who should be heard as soon as possible in the theatre in London, showed himself more than capable of sustaining Rossini's florid line in the role of Arsace, in an unconvincing version of a London Particular, which reaches the culmination of idiosyncrasy by setting the last act inside the gateway of a *Hesperian*. The idea of Ochs ripens by the month without getting overblown.

And yet it did not work. Hans Hartleb's production is drab and Ezio Frigerio's setting drabber still. Frigerio, usually a most scrupulous designer, in an unconvincing programme note writes that he has visualized the action of *Rosenkavalier* "dans un rêve lointain de la réalité". The dream turns out to be little more than Vienna seen through a fog, a central European version of a London Particular, which reaches the culmination of idiosyncrasy by setting the last act inside the gateway of a *Hesperian*. The idea of Ochs ripens by the month without getting overblown.

And yet it did not work. Hans Hartleb's production is drab and Ezio Frigerio's setting drabber still. Frigerio, usually a most scrupulous designer, in an unconvincing programme note writes that he has visualized the action of *Rosenkavalier* "dans un rêve lointain de la réalité". The dream turns out to be little more than Vienna seen through a fog, a central European version of a London Particular, which reaches the culmination of idiosyncrasy by setting the last act inside the gateway of a *Hesperian*. The idea of Ochs ripens by the month without getting overblown.

And yet it did not work. Hans Hartleb's production is drab and Ezio Frigerio's setting drabber still. Frigerio, usually a most scrupulous designer, in an unconvincing programme note writes that he has visualized the action of *Rosenkavalier* "dans un rêve lointain de la réalité". The dream turns out to be little more than Vienna seen through a fog, a central European version of a London Particular, which reaches the culmination of idiosyncrasy by setting the last act inside the gateway of a *Hesperian*. The idea of Ochs ripens by the month without getting overblown.

SIMON CALLOW
as BEEFY
'one of the great comic creations of our time'

THE BEASTLY
BEATITUDES OF BALTAZAR B
DUKE OF YORKS THEATRE 836 5122

EXTENDED UNTIL JANUARY 2nd
Steafel Solo
SHEILA STEAFEL
IN CABARET
"One of the most entertaining performers to be seen on the London Stage"
THE TIMES
DINNER 7.00 SHOW 8.00
THE KINGSDOM THEATRE CLUB
01-226 1916

Dreaming about Therese
At the 1974 Edinburgh Festival I was much taken by the Swedish composer Lars Johann Werle's *Drömmen om Therese*, an opera conceived for performance "in the round", without physical scenery and with the orchestra behind and surrounding the audience. I then recommended it to my touring opera company here, optimistically as the recession turned out.

Seven years later it is the opera class at the Guildhall

The most horrible heroine of all?
School of Music and Drama in the Barbican which has staged the British premiere.

Theatre in the round, for an audience, is more often than not merely a gimmick which may or may not make a play more interesting and enlightening. *Dreaming about Therese*, which treats a Zola short story to the flash-back structural technique of Aldous Huxley's novel *Eyeless in Gaza*, events shown out of sequence, needs arena production because the action by the surrounding orchestra, and by instrumentalists played on stage.

There is a blind fiddler, a mute stranger who communicates on his guitar, and a hero who plays the flute as often as he sings.

The heroine, Therese, is beautiful, and a sadistic bitch: she torments the hunchback who loves her, murders him, then persuades the neighbour, who also adores her, to get rid of the corpse in return for a night of love. He realises the truth and having done his task, throws himself into the water, after the corpse, leaving Therese free to marry a rich suitor.

The orchestral playing, conducted by Peter Ford, was exemplary in neatness and enthusiasm but did not make all the spatial effects desirable (for example the

Concerts

Finding the missing link

Bournemouth Sinfonietta/Montgomery

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Three symphonies from the third quarter of the eighteenth century and two guitar concertos from 1939 made up Monday's concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta. The missing link, unless it was fortuitous, was provided by Boccherini, the young Italian (like Castelnuovo-Tedesco) who was seduced by the colours and the rhythms of Spain (like Rodrigo).

His *Casa del Diavolo* symphony is not one of his more hispanic pieces, except perhaps in the stylized gavotte that makes up its slow movement, a curiously wistful, minor-key piece full of syncopations, textures and harmony but conspicuously short on themes; its finicky handling of detail has echoes in Rodrigo. After it comes a surprise, a finale which is a recomposition of Gluck's *Don Juan* chaconne, the piece which we all know as the "Dance of the Furies" in *Orphée*, here made a shade

more civilized, to its disadvantage. The Bournemouth players did it with due spirit, though the middle movement might have profited from greater polish.

They played another rarity and oddity, a symphony by Thomas Arne, which shows Arne straining, Peter Pan-like, in a novel idiom. Often the music shoots off into old-fashioned baroque unisons and sturdy Handelian basses; and when it inches towards classicism it halts too regularly for cadences. Kenneth Montgomery would have served it better by reading its finale as a *galant* minuet, needing more time for its elegance to be realized.

The guitar concertos offered revealing contrast. Castelnuovo-Tedesco was the technician supreme, a kind of Arnold Schoenberg whose delirious whose command far outpaced what he had to say. The piece is exquisitely orchestrated, with the lightest of touches, and with a gentle wit that lets him introduce delicate new counterpoints every time an idea recurs, and they recur a lot. Sometimes the piece seems like an exercise in saying different things in the

same way, perhaps just the same thing in different ways: he piles ostinato upon ostinato, some long, some short, each with a dozen glosses. Never mind if the invention is slender; if working out is mastery.

The young guitarist Michael Conn played it with proper delicacy, relishing its lazy rhythms and dawdling affectionately over them, varying his textures to set off the variety of accompaniments, and finding a proper excitement for the finale cadenza. But in Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* he had more scope for colour, in the heady suggestions of languid nights in the Spanish gardens, those of moorish Spain in the Adagio with its wailing English horn and oboe and indeed guitar. He had trouble with slipping strings, and his shaping of the big cadenza was not quite assured; but there was real poetry and charm in his playing.

Let Mozart's thirty-third symphony, to restore a sense of values; not an especially careful or refined performance, and thin in violin tone, but in its way lively and agreeably cheerful.

Stanley Sadie

RPO/Temirkanov

Festival Hall

For the second night running Berlioz was the main focus of musical attention at the Festival Hall on Monday, when the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra included the *Symphonie Fantastique* as the second part of their programme. It was the first of three concerts they are giving this week with Yuri Temirkanov, who directs the Kirov Opera in Leningrad and also holds the title of the RPO's principal guest conductor, and whose approach to Berlioz was decidedly equivocal.

There are those who present this symphony as a collage of romantic impressions, others who seek to suggest the fevered states of a disordered mind, and some who try to combine both. It

must take a special kind of talent to make it sound pedestrian, even dull in places, yet, for all his attention to the face value of the notes (and the empty bars) written into the score, this was the impression I had from Mr Temirkanov's performance.

His whirling arms, clutching his baton and his baton combine into a distracting kind of technique, one that often gets between the sounds the orchestra makes and the listener trying to absorb them; but, apart from this, his conducting of Berlioz relies on volume, whether loud or soft, on contrasts of dynamics, rather than brilliance or subtlety of instrumental colour (though there were notable contributions from principal clarinet and cor anglais).

The ponderous course of the symphony's performance

had been anticipated at the start of the programme by a voyage to *The Hebrides*, in the form of Mendelssohn's overture, which, under a heavy weather of the excursion that the music acquired the weightiness of a Beethoven symphonic movement. Between these works came Mozart's G major Piano Concerto (K. 453) with a welcome lightness of spirit in the overall ensemble but something less than rewarding delight in the under-characterized playing of Christian Zacharias.

The pianist began gracefully enough, with a welcome lightness of spirit in the overall ensemble but something less than rewarding delight in the under-characterized playing of Christian Zacharias.

The pianist began gracefully enough, with a welcome lightness of spirit in the overall ensemble but something less than rewarding delight in the under-characterized playing of Christian Zacharias.

Rock

Shakin' Stevens

Odeon, Hammersmith

As a bit of parts — raven collar, gaudy, rotating hips, pink blouson — making up a rockabilly Action Man, Shakin' Stevens would have passed muster alongside Ral Donner, Jeri Powers, Conway Twitty and the other second division Presleys who populated the late Fifties. Unlike most revivalists, he is not a refugee from more recent fashions, and his long-term commitment has conferred easy confidence within the album.

Ten years ago, when he was rather closer to the right age for the job, Stevens enlivened the early rock and roll revival shows with an intense, authentic delivery of the classic repertoire; he seemed to be a Welsh country boy who had never heard the Beatles. Years of obscurity were ended when Jack Good cast him in *Elvis*, and over the past year a clever campaign has elevated him to that species of pop stardom in which the subject becomes a teddy-bear for pre-teens, a sex symbol for young mums and a kitsch joke to those in between.

There is always a price for such success. While hitting a

commercially acceptable vein, Stevens' clever production of Stevens' current recordings has extracted all the bite and threat which Dave Edmunds, in a similar capacity, drew from the singer in the persona of "Train Kept A-Rollin'" which remains perhaps the most spectacularly intense British interpretation of the rockabilly style.

This process of taming was reflected in Monday night's show, a curiously tame affair in which Stevens presented all his hits ("Green Door", "This Old House" and so on), danced very cutely in a manner combining the young Presley's provocative convulsions with the more stylized choreography of West Side Story, and showed signs of strain in his voice. The talents of his pianist, Geraint Watkins, and his guitarist, Mickey Gee, were largely wasted, and Stevens' flirtations with the girls who bombarded him with roses and kisses seemed depressingly parodic.

Most of all, the spectacle lacked internal energy. On the road to *Top of the Pops*, Stevens appears to have been cured of the restricted vision which once made him convincing and even interesting.

Richard Williams

Noël Goodwin

Mermaid Theatre
TOM BAKER
IN
TREASURE ISLAND
THE CLASSIC ADVENTURE
COMMENCING DEC. 15th
BOOK NOW 01-236 5555

magnificent... remarkable... brilliant...
MEPHISTO
STARTS THURS
GATE CAMDEN
257 1201 485 2446
GATE MAY FAIR
493 203

Stock Exchange Prices

Nervous selling

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 23. Dealings End, Dec 4. \$ Contango Day, Dec 7. Settlement Day, Dec 14.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

Robots from the garden shed, page 17

Business News

THE TIMES Wednesday December 2 1981

IMI
for building products, heat exchange, fluid power, special-purpose valves, general engineering, refined and wrought metals.
IMI plc, Birmingham, England

EEC to agree on basis for energy pricing

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

An agreement on energy pricing principles to be followed throughout the European Community will be formally endorsed at a Council of Ministers meeting tomorrow, Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, told the House of Lords committee on the EEC yesterday.

The agreement is the result of a United Kingdom initiative, one of the few brought to fruition during the current period of the British presidency.

The Government is determined that our industry should not be at a competitive disadvantage in the EEC," he said. "The agreement will declare that energy prices must not be kept at artificially low levels and that users should have adequate access to information on prices and on the methods by which both prices and tariffs are determined."

It is important that the Community's pricing principles are fully observed so that energy investment decisions are not distorted by hidden subsidies," he said.

Lord Kearton, a member of the committee and also a part-time member of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, commented on the fact that France, with cheap hydro-electricity as well as nuclear power, was able to offer prices which benefited French industry. "We have taken the deliberate decision to price at top world levels," he said. "It is not masochistic from the point of view of British industry."

Mr Lawson replied that oil and gas prices were not out of line with those in Europe. The main problem was the price of electricity to heavy industrial users where the cost of generation was the price of coal. "We would do better to devote our attention to ways in which we can try to bring down, in real terms, the cost of coal," he said.

There was still a greater demand for gas than there was in supply, and even with the present pattern of supplies, the United Kingdom was to a large extent dependent on imports of gas from Norway. "We are not in a position at the present time to be the 'Lady Bountiful' to Europe in the gas field," Mr Lawson added.

Mr Lawson's soothing words on achieving a measure of agreement on energy pricing practices in Europe will do little to mollify the campaign which bulk users of electricity—particularly the energy-intensive industries of steel, chemicals and paper and board—have waged for almost two years. (Peter Hill writes).

Continuing wide discrepancies in prices for electricity supplied to bulk users in Britain compared with their European counterparts were highlighted in the recent report of the National Economic Development Council's energy task force.

Joint findings made in the main body of that report by the Electricity Council and the Chemical Industries Association showed that French tariff prices were as much as 28 per cent lower; in West Germany, up to 16 per cent lower; and up to 41 per cent lower in Italy.

The Electricity Council, together with area electricity boards and the Central Electricity Generating Board were asked several months ago by the former energy secretary, Mr David Howell to carry out a review of the bulk supply tariff—effectively the whole sale price at which the CEBG sells power to the area boards.

That review is almost complete and is due to be submitted to the Department of Energy soon. Bulk supply is the key to the tariff structure and energy intensive industries believe that there is scope for the electricity supply industry to modify existing rate and tariff structures to take account of heavier users.

Central TV in £25m float by Warburg

By Simon Procter

Central Independent Television, the new company covering the dual-franchise area of East and West Midlands, is being floated off by merchant bank S. G. Warburg in an operation which will give the company a market capital of £25m, according to the prospectus published today.

The public is being offered the opportunity of subscribing for 49 per cent of the voting and non-voting shares of the company. The remaining 51 per cent of each class of stock will be owned by Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation.

This arrangement is in line with the requirements of the Independent Broadcasting Authority at the time of the bidding for the new franchise for the area. The prospectus makes it plain that the five conditions laid down by the IBA have been met.

Apart from the share split between ACC and the public, the others include allowing preference for applications from those actually resident in the area, specifications about membership of the board, a stipulation on the separation of the roles of chairman and chief executive, and the creation of two regional boards.

Central will start trading on January 1. It will have a share capital of one million voting ordinary shares of 50p each and 24 million non-voting ordinary shares of 50p each. The issue price of both classes of shares will be £1 per share.

Applications have to be in units comprising one voting share and 24 non-voting shares, making a minimum of 10 units or £250.

The prospectus suggests that Central will be fairly well insulated from ACC and Lord Grade. Only two of ACC's non-executive directors, Mr Ellis Birkin and Sir Leo Plasky, will be on the Central board, and then only in a non-executive capacity. In addition ACC will not be guaranteeing any of the financing of Central's operations.

The chairman of Central's board is Sir Gordon Hobday, the retiring chairman of Boots.



Mr George Allan: Cautionary Christmas message

Be like Scrooge is CBI message for Christmas

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Britain's businessmen have been urged to follow the example of Dickens' Ebenezer Scrooge and be particularly mean this Christmas.

Unscrupulous foreign-based organisations have traditionally used the season of goodwill to siphon off tens of thousands of pounds from unwary British companies by mailing them phoney invoices for goods and services which they have never received or ordered.

Mr George Allan, a legal adviser at the Confederation of British Industry, says that each Christmas heralds a wave of phoney invoices from companies in this country and abroad who, he says, make a fat profit from the gullibility of United Kingdom businessmen.

In Christmas past, it was the purveyors of bogus trade directories that creamed off large profits in the United Kingdom. The Unsolicited Goods and Services Acts of the 1970s have helped considerably to clamp down on their activities.

In the latest issue of the CBI's monthly newsletter, Mr Allan emphasises that real care has to be taken with foreign companies who claim to be producing telex directories.

He has identified two regular despatches of invoices—one based in Cologne and the other in Barcelona.

"These two organisations send large numbers of forms to United Kingdom firms about twice every year. One wave arrives in June and July (when with a bit of luck the key staff are on holiday) and the other in November and December, when business is brisk and large numbers of invoices have to be dealt with," he said.

Mr Allan claims that companies which fail to check thoroughly innocent-looking "confirmations" of their "editorial entries" can find themselves paying out up to £1,000. The invoices sent by these companies contravene United Kingdom law but because they are outside the United Kingdom little can be done to stop them.

Companies are being warned by Mr Allan to check carefully all suspicious invoices, to make sure that only one member of their staff is able to authorise directory entries, to consult their trade associations or the CBI, and contact the police immediately there is any suspicion that a United Kingdom based company is involved.

Trafalgar House to sell Express Newspapers

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Daily Express and its associated titles is up for sale. Lord Matthews, chief executive of Trafalgar House and chairman of Express Newspapers, told print union leaders yesterday that the titles he bought three years ago will be sold as soon as a buyer can be found.

Trafalgar House Investments, of which he is chairman, has become "disenchanted" with the indifferent financial operation at Express Newspapers, which was taken over from the Beaverbrook Group for £15m in 1977.

However, there is no early prospect of the closure of the Daily Express or its sister Sunday Express, nor the Daily Star, despite heavy losses being incurred by the group.

In the wake of top-level managerial disputes which last week prompted the dismissal of Mr Jocelyn Stevens, the Express managing director, the company is discussing a change in its title to Fleet Newspapers. This would comprise the Daily and Sunday Express, the Daily Star and the Morgan, Grampian publishing group, purchased three years ago at a cost of £23m.

Lord Matthews: Express titles for sale

In talks with the print union SOGAT last night, Lord Matthews proposed a reconstruction of his publishing enterprises that would involve issuing "free" shares to Trafalgar House shareholders in Fleet Newspapers. This initiative was sanctioned by the provisions of the 1981 Finance Act that earlier this year permitted companies to make changes of this sort to give expensive tax concessions to investors.

Trafalgar House, it is argued, will continue to provide loan stock which could then be converted into shares if a takeover bid is finalized, and this would give existing proprietors the final say in takeover and merger negotiations.

There are still strong suggestions that Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail, wants to link up with the Express group to publish one daily paper, with policies sympathetic to the present Government.

Mr Stevens was dismissed from the Express group management last week as the search for a new identity came to a head. His plan for a takeover of the newspaper, by a consortium headed by himself and using staff pension funds and cash available within the print unions, came to nothing.

In the nervous atmosphere surviving the boardroom coup at Express Newspapers, the print unions are unwilling to venture what comes next. But they take some comfort from company statements that all titles will be kept in being. They are asking the company to put this publication pledge into writing.

US Steel delays dumping move

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Dec 1

US Steel has bowed to White House pressure and agreed to delay its planned filing of anti-dumping cases against foreign steelmakers until after a high-level meeting between President Reagan and Mr David Roderick, chairman of America's largest steel company.

At the meeting, tentatively planned for Friday, Mr Reagan will attempt to persuade Mr Roderick to abandon, at least for the next three months, his announced plans to file trade actions against steelmakers in nine countries.

Mr Reagan and his top trade advisers, including Mr Malcolm Baldrige, commerce secretary, and Mr William Brock, United States trade representative, fear the filing of another round of cases against foreign producers could trigger a trade war.

"We've had indications from abroad that this broader action by US Steel will result in prompt retaliation against American exports," a senior White House official said.

The Reagan Administration wants US Steel to wait until the effects of recent Washington actions to cut the flood of low-cost steel imports can be fully assessed.

This month, for example, the Commerce Department filed a series of "warning cases" against foreign steelmakers accusing them of unfair trade practices. There have also been frequent meetings between United States and European Community officials who are attempting to reach a diplomatic solution.

Private meetings have been held on both sides of the Atlantic between government officials and heads of steel companies. In what is described here as "a jawboning tactic to cool the current crisis," a White House official said.

What the Reagan Administration fears most is the possibility that the filing of a large number of private cases such as those anticipated by US Steel will force it to abandon the trigger price mechanism used to control the flow of steel imports.

Mr Baldrige has said his department has neither staff nor resources to run the programme if many cases are filed.

Meanwhile, a group of American specialty steelmakers has indicated that it too may file complaints against foreign producers.

The group plans to meet key Congressmen tomorrow before announcing action which is expected to be supported by the United Steelworkers Union.

Mr Lloyd McBridge, head of the steelworkers union, is in Washington for labour meetings at the White House. He has become increasingly vocal about the loss of jobs resulting from steel imports which rose 7.1 per cent from September to October and now account for 22 per cent of the total market here.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Private phones legalized

British Telecom is allowing four models of telephone to go on sale in private shops immediately. They will be the first that legally can be sold and attached to the telephone network.

The four—GEC's Contempra, STC's Delphphone deluxe, Plessey's Mickey Mouse and Thorn-Ericsson's Astrofon—are already offered for rental by Telecom so they do not need technical approval. In the new year British Telecom will start selling telephones itself from "phone shops" in department stores.

Until an independent approvals process has been established for telephones—ones not likely to happen before next summer—Telecom will be responsible for approving its competitors' instruments.

Department officials at the time they see as Telecom's attempt to delay the dismantling of its monopoly. They say that if Telecom so they do not need technical approval. In the new year British Telecom will start selling telephones itself from "phone shops" in department stores.

Until an independent approvals process has been established for telephones—ones not likely to happen before next summer—Telecom will be responsible for approving its competitors' instruments.

Allied beer profits rise

Allied-Lyons, the brewers, yesterday announced a 30 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £55.5m in the six months to September. The group's three divisions—beer, food and wines, spirits and soft drinks—each recorded profit after tax of £14.7m, up from £11.2m in the corresponding period last year. Wines, spirits and soft drinks profits rose 31 per cent to £22.4m.

Financial Editor, page 17

Refinery plan for Eire

A £300m oil refinery is planned at Refinery, in County Kerry, with a capacity of 150,000 barrels a day. The plan contrasts with closures and cut-backs elsewhere in Europe.

A planning application was lodged by Aran Energy, an Irish company, yesterday. The refinery would have an average of 2,000 jobs each year between 1983 and 1986, according to the company, and would ultimately employ about 400.

It would be built beside the Irish Electricity Supply Board's oil-fired power station at Tarbert and across the Shannon from the board's coal/oil-fired station being built at Money-point.

Ireland imports more than 60 per cent of its refined products

Hanson profit boosted 27 pc

A big increase in American earnings helped Hanson Trust to report yesterday a 27 per cent increase in annual pre-tax profits to £49.7m. The group is presently engaged with Tinseltown in a takeover battle for Bercel, manufacturer of Ever Ready batteries.

Group sales were 25 per cent higher at \$855.3m. The final dividend is being raised to 8.21p gross, making 14.25p gross for the year, against 12.14p. Hanson also announced a 1-for-1 scrip issue.

Financial Editor, page 17

US banks trim fall in rates

Expectations of further big falls in American interest rates received a setback yesterday after disappointing money supply figures boosted the dollar on the world's financial markets. Short-term interest rates rose and most leading banks cut their prime lending rates by only a quarter point to 15.75 per cent instead of following Crocker National and Continental Illinois down to 15.5 per cent.

The dollar closed in London up 75 points against the mark at DM 2.2212 and the pound closed 75 points down.

Over and out

Cables West Coast, a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless, has been ordered to leave Bolivia after 30 years by the three-month-old military government, confirming a decision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. All telecommunications will now go through Cables' State-owned rival company.

Stock Markets

FT Index 530.8 down 7.0
FT Gilt 64.06 down 0.67
FT All Share 311.98 down 3.16
Bargains 16,103

Sterling

£ 19475, down 75 points
Index 91.8 unchanged
New York: \$1.9495

Dollar

Index 105.7 up 0.8
DM 2.2212 up 75 pts

Gold

\$402.50 down \$6.50
New York: \$406.75

Money

3 mth sterling 151.15
3 mth Euro \$ 12 1/2-12 3/4
6 mth Euro \$ 12 1/2-13 1/4

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Atkins Bros	8p to 58p
Chesterfield	5p to 36p
Churchbury Est	5p to 36p
Davies & Newman	5p to 75p
Dixon David	6p to 108p
French T	5p to 108p
Hanson Trust	7p to 286p
Hargreaves	7p to 42p
Hongkong	25p to 475p
Lau & Prov Shop	5p to 435p
Lowell Hldgs	15p to 249p
MEPC	10p to 250p
Ranger Oil	5p to 480p
Vesper	5p to 130p
Yarrow	5p to 270p

Falls

Barclays Bank	20p to 453p
Perklev Exp	25p to 367p
Broken Hill	20p to 625p
Change Wares	5p to 45p
Consolidated	15p to 474p
Greoville	22p to 410p
Harimex Corp	5p to 56p
Intros	15p to 359p
Lease	15p to 438p
Lloyds Bank	15p to 438p
London Shop	8p to 112p
Nidland	15p to 328p
NatWest	15p to 408p
RTZ	15p to 464p
SA Land	15p to 205p

Sir Y K Pao's merger in doubt

Doubt has been cast over plans to merge Sir Y. K. Pao's Hongkong property and shipping interests, after the magnate said he no longer supports the reverse takeover proposals which would make World International, the public vehicle for his shipping empire, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown, the predominantly property group wrested from Jardine, Matheson this year.

The proposals were to have been put to shareholders today, but the decision has been put off until next month after the intervention of Mr Robert Fell, the Hongkong Government's Commissioner for Securities, and Jardine's Fleming, financial advisers to minority Wharf shareholders.

Financial Editor, page 17

Exchange risk cover on loans made to British companies from the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community by the Government is to be maintained for a further two years, subject to a £400m borrowing limit.

Exchange risk cover on loans made to British companies from the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community by the Government is to be maintained for a further two years, subject to a £400m borrowing limit.

Consolidated profit and loss account for half-year to 30 September 1981 (unaudited)

	Half-year to 30.9.1981 £000	Half-year to 30.9.1980 £000	Year to 31.3.1981 £000
Trading profit of operating subsidiaries	8,836	8,882	13,615
Income from investments	4,280	3,196	6,680
Associated companies	5,363	6,352	10,994
Other investments	9,643	9,548	17,674
Retained profits less losses of associated companies	2,938	15,416	15,416
Surplus on realization of investments	9,301	7,011	8,037
Interest receivable	3,323	3,165	9,005
	40,341	36,474	63,747
Deduct:			
Administration and technical expenditure	2,449	2,539	4,551
Prospecting expenditure (including recoveries)	486	(28)	531
Interest payable	3,342	2,692	5,874
	6,277	5,203	10,956
Profit before taxation	34,064	31,271	52,791
Taxation	10,435	10,612	18,721
Profit after taxation	23,629	20,659	34,070
Deduct:			
Minority interest	1,407	1,288	1,476
Profit attributable to Charter	22,222	19,371	32,594
Earnings per share	21.15p	18.45p	31.05p
Interim dividend of 3.75p per share (previous year - 3.4p)	3,940	3,569	

Note: The results of Alexander Shand (Holdings) Limited from the effective date of acquisition to 30 June 1981 have been consolidated in Charter's accounts to 30 September 1981.

Interim dividend
The directors have declared an interim dividend of 3.75p per share payable on or about 7 January 1982 to shareholders registered at the close of business on 11 December 1981 and to persons presenting coupon no. 34 detached from share warrants to bearer. The dividend will carry a tax credit of 1.60714p per share.

1 December 1981

by order of the board
D.S. BOOTH
secretary

Textile chiefs in plea over imports

By Our Industrial Staff

The Government was attacked yesterday for failing to persuade the European Community to adopt sufficiently firm import controls to save the British textile and clothing industry.

A week before the EEC Council of Ministers meets to decide on terms for renewal of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, Mr Russell Smith, president of the British Textile Confederation, said: "The Community's position at present falls far short of the Government's declared aim of a tough and effective successor to MFA."

"It is therefore essential that, before the Council of Ministers meets, the Government should review its own policy and tactics and should resolve to fight for a toughening of the Community's mandate."

He said it should concentrate on reducing import quotas to 1980 levels and bringing rates of growth down to an average of 1 per cent a year.

"Any failure by the Government to press the need for a toughening of the EEC approach in these critical areas... will have very serious consequences for the industry, for the British economy and for regions of the United Kingdom already suffering high levels of unemployment", he said.

Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State for Trade, was presented with similar arguments yesterday at a meeting with the British Textile Employers' Association, whose president, Mr Harry Leach, expressed his disappointment at the Government for settling for 1982 quota rates.

Mr Norman Sussman, of the British Clothing Industries Association, went further, saying: "If this line is maintained the industry will see it as nothing less than a sell-out."

Shipbuilders set to beat £700m orders this year

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

British Shipbuilders is expected to exceed £700m worth of new orders this year.

The corporation announced yesterday that it had won two more export orders, together worth £28m, boosting the value of contracts to £689m with more expected before the end of the month.

The latest orders coincide with announcements by two other public sector concerns of new contracts worth £40m.

The British Steel Corporation's Tubes division is to supply £10m worth of steel linepipe to link Shell Exploration and Production's natural gas liquids plants at St Fergus, Aberdeenshire, and Mossburn, Fife.

Altogether, BSC is to supply 142 miles of 20-inch diameter pipeline from its Harlepool pipe mill. The line will take gas liquids from the gas separation plant at St Fergus to the fractionation plant at Mossburn.

Rolls-Royce, the State-controlled aero engine manufacturer, is to supply "mini" power stations worth £30m to the Middle East. The electric

generating sets, to be built at Anstey, near Coventry, are powered by Olympus turbo-jet aircraft engines and are able to produce 250,000 kilowatts of electricity.

The shipbuilding orders were announced on the eve of Mr Robert Atkinson, the British Shipbuilders chairman, appearing before a Parliamentary Select Committee today. They are for two bulk carriers — one of 35,000 tonnes deadweight, the other of 31,000 tonnes deadweight — to be built at Sunderland Shipbuilders for Panamanian-based owners.

The orders bring the total value of merchant ship orders won by British Shipbuilders this year to almost £380m. In addition, the corporation has won orders for two semi-submersible drilling rigs, worth £132m, and warships, worth almost £170m.

□ The Austrian electronics group Kapsch is to cooperate with Rascal Tacticon in producing Rascal military radio radios for the Austrian forces. The contract value of around £23m will be shared by the two companies.

Howe outlines aid plan

By Drew Johnston

Expansion of the small business sector will only come about if more would-be entrepreneurs and their advisers understood what help the Government has made available to them, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, told a Business Opportunities conference in Durham yesterday.

This consisted of a number of schemes, including the loan guarantee scheme which made it easier for small firms to find capital, tax changes and steps to ease the administrative burden.

The Chancellor repeated the Government's plan to test the effectiveness of an enterprise allowance which would be paid in place of unemployment benefit to people setting up small businesses.

"It is often said that many unemployed people are deterred from using redundancy money to set themselves up in business because they lose their entitlement to unemployment benefit at the time when they may have little else to live on", Sir Geoffrey said.

Reagan in policy talks with US unions

By Rupert Morris

President Reagan is attempting to repair his badly-damaged links with organized labour this week through a series of briefings at the White House for the heads of nearly 50 trade unions.

The meetings, complete with cabinet-level luminaries and full press coverage, were scheduled hastily late last month after the powerful AFL-CIO, America's largest trade union, broke with tradition and failed to invite Mr Reagan to address its annual conference.

Since then, Mr Lane Kirkland, head of the AFL-CIO, has made numerous statements accusing Mr Reagan of adopting policies designed to aid the rich at the expense of the working class.

His openly hostile remarks about the president have gained Mr Kirkland considerable publicity in recent weeks, prompting the White House to issue invitations to labour leaders for the meetings.

Most important of the meetings will be tomorrow when Mr Reagan is to confer with the AFL-CIO's powerful executive council, comprised of the presidents of 33 major unions.

Labour leaders are expected to confront the president with statements made by Mr David Stockman that the Mr Reagan's policies are really designed to help the rich, who will in turn make investments that will eventually aid the poor.

With unemployment expected to be 9 per cent by the end of the year, union leaders want some sign from Mr Reagan that he also intends to help working people.

But labour is unlikely to be receptive to Mr Reagan's overtures in the opinion of trade union officials, who note that five heads of important trade unions chose to boycott the White House meetings to protest at Mr Reagan's policies.

AA says Europe less efficient

By Derek Harris

Carmakers 'waste energy'

Inefficient energy use by some West European car manufacturers compared with those in Japan could help explain their apparent lack of competitiveness, it was suggested yesterday at a London conference on manufacturing trends in the industry.

Many European manufacturers waste energy at several critical stages of manufacture, Mr Marcus Jacobson, chief engineer of the Automobile Association, said. He told the conference, organized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, that up to a third extra energy was wasted in many European plants which had been built or refurbished in the past two decades.

More than half the production cost of a European car was accounted for by materials and about 30 per cent by manufacturing.

Japanese cars required between 20 per cent and 30 per cent less energy in manufacturing. Because of that many old established European manufacturers both of cars and components faced a difficult future because of the likely rises in the cost of energy.

"A radical reassessment of energy utilization during all phases of production is urgently called for", Mr Jacobson said.

There was little point in modernization and introduction of new technology, such as robotics, unless manufacturing levels were also tackled, he added. British plants tended to sprawl, were widely dispersed and were being operated at uneconomic levels of plant use.

There was scope in north America as well as United Kingdom factories to reduce heat losses and energy consumption, he said.

But Mr Cedric Emery, manager of production and plant engineering at BL's Land-Rover factory at Solihull, near Birmingham, claimed that at Solihull Land-Rover now had a facility which would be in use into the next decade. This plant was as advanced as any in the world for engine production.

Big changes in component supply were forecast by Mr Brian Knibb, European automotive group manager at A.T.

Kearney. Two-thirds of the cost of the average vehicle in Europe went on components from outside suppliers. He forecast that international sourcing of components by European makers would rise from 10 per cent to about 25 per cent.

There would be a reduction of a third in the number of suppliers serving the European industry, he suggested. Advances in the use of various plastics in car manufacture were described in a number of papers at the conference, including new moulding systems for glass fibre-reinforced plastics. These not only gave design flexibility, high strength compared with metals and much lighter weight, but had competitive tooling costs and moderate finishing costs.

Prototype front and rear doors at Peugeot in plastics showed 37 per cent weight savings on traditional metal construction and on a Ford light truck tailgate the weight saving was 27 per cent. Plastics are also being developed to cope with vehicle parts under high stress.

800 jobs to go at Rockware

By Our Industrial Editor

Scotland and the North West of England are to lose 1,100 jobs in the glass and electronics industries.

Rockware Glass, a subsidiary of the Rockware Group, is to close its St Helens plant at the end of February with the loss of 800 jobs.

Rockware, the United Kingdom's largest volume producer of glass containers has been hit by the shrinking market, Mr James Craigie, company chairman, said. The market has dropped by 1 per cent. The company reported pretax losses for the half year of £1.3m.

At the beginning of last year, 400 jobs were axed at St Helens which has been losing money for several years. The plant was expected to record a loss of about £1.5m this year.

Plassey, the electronics group is to shut its plant at Bathgate near Edinburgh with the loss of 330 jobs. Last month British Leyland announced that it was to make 1,400 workers at its Bathgate plant redundant as part of an overall job-shedding exercise throughout its truck and bus division.

In Oxfordshire, the 200 workers employed at W.W. Offset, a company run by

former Labour MP, Mr Woodrow Wyatt were given notice yesterday as a result of a dispute between the company and the National Graphical Association. Talks are continuing.

On a brighter note, 750 workers employed by the Oxy Printing Group which went into receivership in August with debts of £10m, learned that their jobs had been saved.

Mr Ian McIsaac, the receiver disclosed that the jobs had been saved following the sale of subsidiary companies and management buy-outs.

IN BRIEF

Japan plans to trade oil stocks

Japan's semi-official National Oil Corporation said yesterday it has proposed that the Government should bar the equivalent of \$11,000m (£5,650m) from Japanese banks over the next seven years to treble the State's oil stockpile.

Japan, which depends almost entirely on imported energy, has a vigorous stockpiling policy in case of emergencies.

The Government's present stocks, held in 35 idle tankers, total 63 million barrels, or 16 days' demand while privately held stocks amount to 110 days' demand.

The corporation plans to spend 40 per cent of its borrowings on building storage bases.

New funds raised

□ New funds raised on international capital markets in November increased 29 per cent to \$15,114m (about £7,763m) from \$11,674m in October.

Kenya dam opens

□ The new Masina Dam, holding back the waters of the Upper Tana river in Kenya to create East Africa's biggest man-made lake, 30 miles long, is to be opened today. Britain has contributed more than £20m to the £55m cost of the project. Mr Reginald Eyre, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, who is leading a British mission to Kenya, will attend the ceremony.

US vehicle output

□ The United States car industry will remain depressed in early 1982, but sales of new cars and trucks could increase substantially later if the economy grows and interest rates continue to decline, Mr Donald E. Peterson, president of Ford Motor Company, said yesterday in Detroit.

Refinery fire

□ Angola's only oil refinery, damaged by fire on Monday, will be out of operation for two months, a spokesman for Petrofina said. Angola has accused South Africa of sending a sabotage squad of white mercenaries to destroy the refinery.

China growth plan

□ Premier Zhao Ziyang said China planned to increase its economic growth rate to 4 per cent in 1982 from an estimated 3 per cent this year.

Tokyo trade deficit

□ Japan's customs-cleared trade turned into a \$1,080m (£533m) deficit in the first 20 days of November from a \$1,170m surplus in the corresponding period of October and compared with \$512m deficit a year earlier, the Finance Ministry said.

Japan's customs-cleared trade in the first 10 days of November produced a deficit of \$382m against a \$995m surplus in the same October period.

Sale of hides

□ M. Pierre Dreyfus, the French Industry Minister, and executives of the French footwear industry have signed a three-point plan to smooth out irregularities in the market for hides.

Business failures

□ The number of bankruptcies in Belgium fell sharply in November. Business failures last month dropped 23 per cent to 339 from a record 441 in October.

Tariff cuts review

□ Mr Zenko Suzuki, Japanese Prime Minister said today he has ordered his new Cabinet to examine the possibility of speeding up implementation of a 1976 GATT tariff cuts. The easing of import fees and duties, originally set for 1984, could be advanced by two years to ease Japan's trade frictions with the United States and Western Europe.

Business appointments

Deputy chief at Laing Construction

Mr John Renshaw, joint managing director of John Laing Construction, has been appointed deputy chairman of the company and chairman of Laing Management Contracting from January. Mr David Bottom and Mr Oliver Whitehead are to be assistant managing directors of John Laing Construction.

Mr Nigel Vinson is to be a director of Barclays Bank UK from January 1 and remains a member of the bank's Newcastle upon Tyne local board. Mr Stanley Kemp, a regional general manager, becomes a deputy general manager of Barclays Bank UK.

Mr G. S. Abel, managing director of British Road Services Midlands, is appointed group managing director of the Roadline UK group, a subsidiary of the National Freight Company. Mr A. C. C. Ferguson, deputy managing director, is to be deputy chief executive of Ferodo.



Mr Robert D. Botter, new chief at the Saudi American Bank.

Mr C. E. Heath & Co (Advisory Services), a health-shipping services, Mr Robert D. Botter becomes managing director of the Saudi American Bank. He succeeds Mr Michael A. Callen, who has returned to Citibank's New York headquarters in a senior position in the corporation's treasury.

Mr A. G. W. Jackson is to join the partnership of Macfarlane, Solicitors.

Mr A. C. Smith has been appointed a director of R. W. Toothill.

Lord Mark Fitzalan Howard has been elected chairman of The Association of Investment Trust Companies.

Mr Silvano Grimaldi has become sales director of Fiat Auto (UK)'s Lancia brand. Mr Geoffrey Hughes and Mr Barry Buchanan are to be directors of Anthony Lumsden & Co.

MEPC

A five-year policy of successful expansion based on

the development of new property

Salient points from the Annual Statement by the Chairman, Sir Gerald Thorley, TD, FRICS.

Against a background of economic recession and continuing high interest rates worldwide, pre-tax profits rose during the year by 28%, earnings per share by 23% and net assets per share by 30%.

The extremely good results underline the success of MEPC's policy of expansion following the difficult years from 1975 to 1977. Dividends per Ordinary share have risen from 1.7p in 1977 to this year's proposed total distribution of 6.5p.

Group assets stand for the first time at over £1 billion. Of the increase in net asset value per share of 87p, a particularly strong performance in Australia accounted for 25p of the uplift, excluding currency gains.

Shareholders' funds have increased over the year from £484 million to £646 million. Our borrowing ratio continues to reduce and loan capital now represents 45% of shareholders' funds.

We have, where practical, retained the full equity interest in our projects during development by the use of medium-term bank loans. The success of this policy is readily apparent.

Our investment portfolio in the United Kingdom continues to be the bedrock of the Group and represents 69% of Group assets. Despite the basic weakness of the U.K. economy, our business has remained buoyant with vacant properties currently accounting for less than 2½% of the U.K. rent roll and generally good rental increases being obtained on reviews and reversions.

Capital commitments for new developments and refurbishments in the U.K. and overseas currently total £90 million compared with £61 million last year.

Summary of Group Results

(Year ended 30th September, 1981)

	1981 £'000	1980 £'000
Gross rents and other income	83,070	63,474
Earnings before taxation	26,798	20,993
Taxation	10,914	8,166
Earnings attributable to ordinary shares	15,567	12,645
Earnings per share diluted	9.2p	7.5p
Net dividends per share	6.50p	5.75p
Net assets per share diluted	373p	286p

To: The Secretary, MEPC Limited, Brook House, 113 Park Lane, London W1Y 4AY.

Please send me a copy of the 1981 Annual Report which will be available from 17th December, 1981.

Name _____
Address _____

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Allied-Lyons continues to improve

Allied-Lyons has confirmed the benefits of its recent savage rationalization action with an impressive 30 per cent advance in half-year pretax profits to £65.5m and a balance sheet on a healthier footing. In brewery activities Allied managed a 6 per cent rise in beer profits despite the 6 per cent national decline in beer consumption resulting from the squeeze on consumer spending and duty increases. Reduced losses from its Dutch Skol subsidiary, to £500,000 against £2.5m, helped the increase and further benefits are expected over the full year.

Overcapacity in the United Kingdom industry still looms despite five million barrels lost in the United Kingdom market over two years. The Ansell's closure took one million barrels out of Allied. And though it will take time to repair the damage, the group believes it can increase its market share. Second-half beer sales are traditionally slacker, but a similar performance is expected.

Profits from J. Lyons continue to improve by 34 per cent after last year's loss elimination and a particularly strong performance again came from the United States businesses which produce nearly half the profits.

HALF YEAR TO MID-SEPTEMBER £m

	1981/82	1980/81
Turnover	1,206	1,139
Trading profit	74.6	88.7
Capital profits	7.3	6.7
Investment inc	0.9	1.0
Associated Cos	8.4	5.4
Finance charges	-25.7	-31.3
Pre-tax profit of which:		
Brew	34.7	32.5
Wines, spirits	22.4	17.0
Soft drinks	16.5	12.3
Food		
Unallocated central expenses, etc	-8.1	-11.3

Currency translations continued to move in Allied's favour. A 31 per cent rise from wines, spirits and soft drinks was struck, despite an estimated 10 per cent fall in spirits sales, and further improvement is expected in the second half.

Working capital has increased but borrowings have continued to fall with a £51m drop in loan capital, only partly offset by a £31m increase in overdrafts. Property sales have yielded good profits and will continue apace, though profits on this count are not expected to match last year's £17.3m. Allied could perform on a similar level in the second half unless there are any serious setbacks to consumer spending or interest rates. The market is going for profits of between £125m and £130m. With a final dividend increase of some 20 per cent looking a reasonable bet, the shares would yield 11.5 per cent at 74p.

Hanson Trust Maintaining its record

While Hanson Trust's takeover record has been less than glittering over the past year, one cannot deny the conglomerate's ability to generate profits. Pretax profits for the year to September 30 show a 27 per cent increase to £49.7m, the 18th successive year of rising profits. The figures bettered market expectations and the shares rose 6p to 285p.

The improvement has come on the back of a big increase in earnings in the United States which has offset a downturn in the group's United Kingdom activities. The United States contributed £39.3m to group profits, against £20.9m the previous year. The corresponding figures for the United Kingdom are £14.8m against £19.3m.

In dollar terms, the United States performance, although still good, looks less spectacular. Converting to sterling at a \$1.786 rate, compares with \$2.392

the previous year, has been worth about £9m to group profits. Against this, though, one has to put the reverse effects on interest charges on the group's dollar borrowings. The group's overall interest charge rose from £1.1m to £4.4m.

The balance sheet remains strong and cash resources exceed £175m. The funds are there to make further acquisitions. If the present bid for Bored fails, it will be the fourth unsuccessful takeover bid Hanson has made this year. If it is going to sustain its growth record, it will have to make a successful offer before too long.

Hongkong merger

Marriage deferred

Hongkong's taipans are used to getting what they want on their own terms. It is notable when they do not. Sir Yue-kong Pao has backed down from his proposal to consolidate his shipping and property interests in the colony by a reverse takeover of his World International by Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown, the predominantly property group which he wrested from Jardine Matheson.

The critics, especially influential and shrewd local Chinese minority shareholders in Wharf, said the deal was being pushed through too quickly and cheaply. The opposition may have surprised Sir Yue-kong. Faced with a choice of improving the terms or risking a face-losing and humiliating defeat when Wharf shareholders came to vote, Sir Yue-kong has clearly decided to give up rather than pay up, at least for the time being.

The case has also been the first big test for Mr Robert Fell, the colony's Commissioner for Securities. His decision to ask for Wharf's shareholder meeting to be deferred and for more information to be provided to minority shareholders effectively stopped Sir Yue-kong's railroad through a merger that would have done nothing for Hongkong's image as anything but a cavalier market.

Property

Great Portland takes its opportunity

Great Portland Estates' £27m rights issue of one for six at 162p a share had been well rumoured. Over the past week the shares have slithered from 202p to 190p. After yesterday's announcement they eased further, to 184p. Even so, the recovery in the shares from 154p on Black Monday, September 28, has presented the group with a chance it could not resist to raise money. No doubt the issue will go well. A £27m issue is not large for a group with a market capitalization of nearly £200m though the fact remains that Great Portland's is largely opportunistic.

More to the market's liking yesterday was the news that MEC's net assets per share in the year to last September jumped 87p to 373p. The fall in the pound flattered the Australian component (25p) and there was a fillip at home from valuations of developments just completed. The shares rose 10p to 250p.

Markets took the line of least resistance yesterday ahead of today's statement from the Chancellor — and that meant that both gilts and equities gave ground. Not helping in the background was the overnight news of a rather surprising rise in the United States money supply. In London period rates in the money markets looked slightly firmer as some operators decided that the failure of the very short term rates to fall was making the cost of running longer paper rather more expensive than they had bargained for. Whether they have jumped the right way may be clearer by this afternoon.

Business Diary: At the sign of the black horse

Bank managers as a breed are as unwilling to part with information they are cash, so I wasn't too surprised to go nowhere with Norman Gilham yesterday.

Gilham, I should explain, is not my bank manager, but according to Robert Fisk, The Times correspondent in Beirut, Gilham unwittingly is the London banker of the Muslim Brotherhood. This the group which admitted responsibility for the explosion in Damascus on Sunday in which more than 60 people were killed.

British Muslims sympathetic to the brotherhood's aims, Fisk wrote yesterday, are invited to send donations to account number 0109448 at the Kilburn and Brondesbury branch of Lloyds at Kilburn High Road, NW6. Gilham is the manager.

When I called yesterday to ask how the account came to be there and how long it would stay, Gilham would say only: "Would you like to get in touch with head office, please?" He said it twice.

"All I can say is that we do have an account at that branch of the Muslim Brotherhood name."

"We weren't aware it (the account) was going to be used for what it (the Fisk article) said it was going to be used. Providing there are satisfactory references we accept an account."

In this case the references apparently were "satisfactory," but the bank declined to discuss yesterday whether it would continue to accept money for the account.

The chairman of Lloyds, who company logo is the kicking black horse, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of the committee of London Clearing Banks.

Keeping calm

It would be hard to find a more reassuring chairman for the Association of Investment Trusts Companies than Lord Mark Fitzgerald Howard, whose appointment as Mr John Storer's successor is announced today.

Lord Mark, 47, is one of those City aristocrats whose languid vowel sounds and sympathetic sighs are as delightfully soothing as the manner of the most accomplished surgeon, bank manager or priest.

Over lunch yesterday he refused to be bullied by an insistent BBC journalist into giving the Association a more publicity-conscious image. He preferred to rely on his members' reputation for reliability and competence.

Lord Mark agreed that with more than three-quarters of the investment trusts' capitalization of £10,000 million held by institutions, he would like to attract more individual private investors. Expert opinion seems to bear out his assertion that over the past five years investment trusts have consistently outperformed unit trusts.

Most impressive of all, Lord Mark, who is the youngest brother of the Duke of Norfolk, but "not a rich man" revealed that most of his personal investment was in investment trusts.

Stocking tops?

There was one question I felt I had to ask Brian McMeekin yesterday: is he a stockings man or is he a tight man?

McMeekin, I should explain, is the managing director of the Thomas Tilling subsidiary of Pretty Polly, which is the biggest name in ladies' branded hosiery, selling about 130 million pairs of hose a year.

"Professionally, I must say I really have no preference so long as they buy them in ever-increasing numbers. I am here to serve," he said.

He rather went for stockings, in particular his own Hold-Up (self-supporting brand).

In purely male terms I think it's an exciting product. McMeekin was in London yesterday having left his Sutton-in-Ashfield headquarters for the annual Miss Lovely Legs of Great Britain competition, of which Pretty Polly is principal sponsor.

Twenty ladies with names like Tracey and Jacqui paraded in Pretty Polly tights and stockings as well as other unmentionables, but McMeekin, who is probably biased about ladies' legs, did not act as judge.

He is a good sport nonetheless, for when I asked him what the McMeekin legs were graced by, he didn't hesitate to hitch up a trouser leg and show me a demure medium-short sock not in nylon but in grey cotton.

"I prefer cotton over-wheemingly," he said. "I find wool hot and nylon hot and

Tokyo Mr Toshio Iguchi, 31, is president of a one man company on the outskirts of Tokyo but spends most of his working hours relaxing on the golf course.

His life style might appear incongruous with his warlike record for productivity but it serves as an apt example of how a revolution is beginning to overtake Japan's cottage industries — the myriad of small backyard family factories and sub-contractors which form the base of the country's industrial strength.

Mr Iguchi spends most of his time at a nearby golf course while three rented industrial robots churn out tens of thousands of plastic toy parts a day in his unmanned backyard factory.

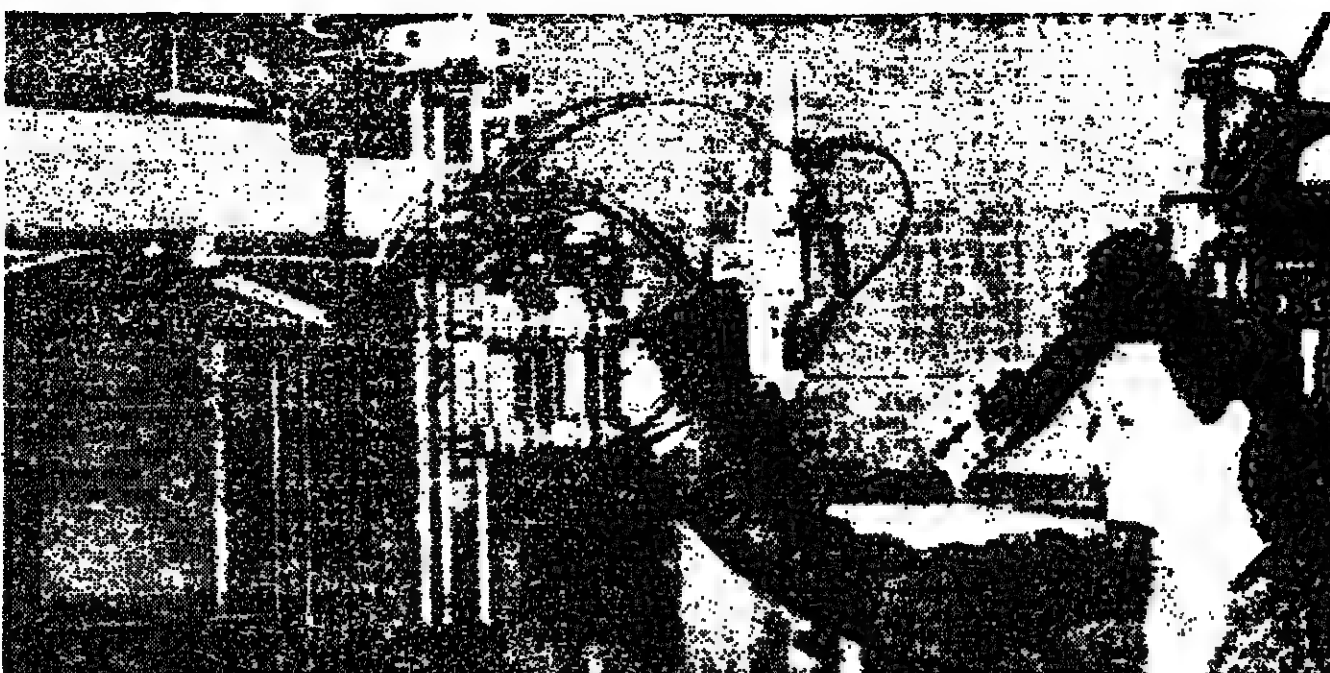
"It is marvellous. I have increased my productivity in the factory and reduced my golf handicap to 11 since I dispensed with casual workers and rented the three robots last April," Mr Iguchi explains as he enters the 150 sq yd shed behind his Japanese home in Katushika, a suburb of northern Tokyo.

The young Japanese entrepreneur says that he used to employ three workers in the neighbourhood to man automatic plastic moulding machines which produce 18 parts of a plastic stop watch for a major toy manufacturer.

The workers had to remove the parts from the moulding machine, cut off surplus strips of plastic and pack the parts in cardboard cartons. These were then shipped to the contractor.

Mr Iguchi says he decided to investigate the possibility of installing robots in the small garden shed earlier this year when he could no longer obtain reliable workers nearby.

"There were many problems. Employees would quit without notice and my wage bill was rising beyond a



Mr Iguchi before a hard day on the golf course

reasonable level. In the past I was paying each of my three employees 180,000 yen (£425) a month," he says.

"I am renting each robot for 38,000 yen (£90) a month from a robot leasing company. They don't complain, I don't have to provide them with tea and they can work in the dark. The robots are more accurate and the quality of the finished product is better."

The sporting businessman says that when he first pursued the idea of purchasing robots he was told each would cost 2 million yen (£5,000). "When I told the manufacturer that the sum was too high they referred me to a robot leasing company which had recently been

formed to help the cottage industry and small businessmen," he explains.

Experts inspected his factory and three robots were modified to replace the

Peter Hazelhurst

Mr Iguchi's garden shed robots

human workers. The decision changed Mr Iguchi's life.

Each morning he turns on the heaters of the plastic moulding machine at 7 am, then has breakfast while the unit warms up. He fills the storage bins on top of the automatic moulder with raw plastic granules and places large cardboard boxes under the arms of the three robots. The robots are switched on and Mr Iguchi leaves for the golf course.

The robots continue to drop 18 parts into the boxes every 24 seconds.

His wife removes the three boxes of finished parts and replaces them with empty ones every six hours. "Besides a bit of maintenance that is all I have to do to keep the factory running 14 hours a day," he says.

The robots have been programmed to remove surplus strips from parts and drop the scrap into separate containers. Scrap plastic is

then processed in another machine and recycled into granules again. The robots can be reprogrammed to handle other products.

The factory produces 35,000 parts a day — enough over a month to produce 100,000 toy watches. Mr Iguchi claims he makes about the equivalent of 3.5p profit every 24 seconds while he tries to improve his golf handicap on a nearby fairway.

"I intend to do a lot of skiing this winter," he adds. Like Mr Iguchi many of Japan's small businessmen and backyard family factories are beginning to rent efficient automated equipment from the newly formed Japan Robot Leasing Company, formed by 24 leading robot manufacturers and financed by the Development Bank of Japan and commercial banks.

In one case the owner of a small garage factory, who

has a sub-contract to weld brackets for a large car manufacturer, has dispensed with four casual workers and has installed four welding robots at the back of the house.

He now runs a Sashimi (raw fish) shop at the front of his house while the robots continue to weld car parts in the back garage.

"We buy the robots from the manufacturers and leave them out to small entrepreneurs," says Mr Shinichi Matsuda, president of the leasing company. "Our clients are small or medium size companies which do not want to invest or purchase robots which will become obsolete in five years. They prefer to rent them at the moment. They also want the robots because there is a shortage of labour. It means that skilled workers can move onto other jobs while robots take over dangerous and boring jobs."

Deindustrialization—testing theories

The huge drop in manufacturing output — down by more than a sixth since spring 1979 — has been the most striking feature of the recession. But in the debate about the Government's macroeconomic policies of the past two years, we often lose sight of the fact that the decline in manufacturing is not new.

It has been a persistent feature of the last eight years. In the mid-1970s it was identified by left and right as one of the country's prime economic problems. Many theories were put forward to explain why it was happening.

If we are to understand what is going on and what we ought to do about it, we ought to look again at some longer term explanations which have been put forward for what is going on in the industrial sector.

There are five main explanations of what has been happening which we should consider.

One is that the problems have been caused by stupid economic policies by the Government, which drove up the exchange rate through high interest rates, incited big pay rises by its tax policy and deflated the domestic economy by cutting its borrowing requirement.

Then there is the North Sea explanation, first put forward by Kay and Forsyth, which says that North Sea oil

automatically causes a contraction in manufacturing output.

A third explanation is that of Bacon and Eltis, that growth of the public sector has led to contraction of manufacturing. The fourth is what is usually called the "New Cambridge" explanation, that growing imperialism, that growing market and that conventional solutions, such as devaluation, will not stop this. Only import controls can meet the challenges under this scenario.

The fifth explanation is really the mirror image of the first. It says that contraction in manufacturing is a sign that the Government's policies have, at great cost, worked. Useless capacity which had been outdated by the 1973 oil shock has at last been removed and the industrial sector has become more efficient in response to competition.

As an explanation of what has happened in the past two years, the Bacon and Eltis explanation does not work. They argued that the signs of the deindustrialisation of Britain was the shift of workers from the trading to the public sector. By pre-empting resources the Government was effectively "crowding out" the private sector. Yet public employment has not risen in the past two years; it has fallen.

The million jobs lost in manufacturing have not been to the benefit of extra public service jobs; they have resulted in an increase in unemployment. Bacon and Eltis themselves warned that what was needed was not to cut the public sector but to boost it from the private sector.

They wrote: "There would be the certainty of disaster if a Conservative pro-market sector government came to power and just sat back, balanced the budget and let unemployment mount waiting for the market to solve its problems."

What about the idea that North Sea oil has made a decline in manufacturing output inevitable. The argument rests on the fact that we export to pay for our imports. As we no longer have to pay for imports of oil, we can import more of other things and export less of our own manufactures. The manufacturing sector will therefore decline.

As a long term explanation this seems unsatisfactory. It is true that the share of manufacturing in our national output would fall in those circumstances. But that is no reason why the absolute level should go down.

What we ought to expect, unless the domestic economy was at full capacity, would be that manufacturing would take a smaller share of a

larger whole, but would not actually contract.

Oddly enough, this inadequate explanation fits well in one respect with the experience of the past two years. One consequence of North Sea oil was to make sterling a more attractive currency. Supporters of the theory could argue that the pound went up in 1979 and 1980 because investors realized that Britain would get improving benefits to the balance of payments until 1985.

Yet the movements of the pound in 1981 hardly bear out the theory. When British interest rates were below world levels in the summer, the pound fell. Now that our interest rates are once again high, sterling is strengthening. This points strongly to the conclusion that the appreciation of the pound in 1980 owed more to British monetary policies than to a structural shift in the balance of payments.

What about the "New Cambridge" school of thought which ties deindustrialisation to rising imports? The problem here is that imports were falling at the same time that manufacturing went through the floor. As Sir Alec Cairncross pointed out, without accepting the Cambridge diagnosis of what should be done their definition of what deindustrialisation means has a lot to commend it. But over the past two years, it does not fit as a description of what has been happening.

That leaves us with the following, rather depressing, conclusion. Much of the decline in manufacturing industry in the past two years is unrelated to the structural problems it faced in the early and mid-1970s, whichever version of the various analyses of those problems you subscribe to.

We are left with options one and five. Either the Government is to blame through bad economic policy or it is to be praised for catching up with economic reality. Either way, the implication is that the manufacturing cannot come back without a reversal of the policies and its disappearance has been caused by the policies.

Whether the Government was right to do what it did or not is something we can only tell in time; though if it was, it ought to be saying that the future lies with the growth of services, not telling workers to accept low pay settlements to hang on to jobs in manufacturing.

But it is a strange irony that a government whose election owed so much to a feeling that manufacturing had been treated too badly should have presided over the greatest industrial recession this century.

R Bacon and W Britain's Economic Problem: Too Few Producers. Macmillan. P J Forsyth and J Kay, up Economic Implications of North Sea Oil Revenues. Fiscal Studies Vol 1, No 3 Deindustrialisation, edited by Frank Blackaby, includes a contribution by Sir Alec Cairncross, Master St Peter's College, Oxford, published by Heinemann.

David Blake

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crds	15 %
C. Hoare & Co	15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSB	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

* 7 day deposit on terms of £10,000, 10% per annum, 15% per annum over £50,000 i.e.

THE NEW THROGMORTON TRUST LTD.

Capital Loan Stock Valuation 1st December The Net Asset Value per £1 of Capital Loan Stock is 279.85p calculated on Formula 1 Securities valued at middle market prices.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

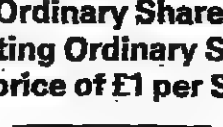
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Grass Div't	Vid %	Actual	YTD %
115	100	100	ABI Hedges 10% CULS	115	-	10.0	8.7	-	-
76	39	39	Airsprung Group	66	-	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5
52	21	21	Armstrong & Rhodes	43	-	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1
200	92	92	Bardon Hill	190	-	9.7	5.1	9.2	11.2
104	88	88	Deborah Services	91	-	5.5	6.0	4.5	8.5
126	88	88	Frank Horsell	120	-	6.4	5.3	10.8	26.1
110	39	39	Frederick Parker	60	-	1.7	2.8	26.1	-
102	93	93	George Blair	46	-	-	-	-	-
113	59	59	Jackson Group	97	-	7.3	7.3	7.2	10.9
130	103	103	Japes Burroughs	102	-	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
334	244	244	Robert Jenkins	268	-	31.3	11.7	3.7	9.5
59	50	50	Scrutons "A"	53	-	5.3	10.0	8.2	7.8
224	173	173	Torday Limited	173	-	15.1	8.7	6.7	11.5
23	8	8	Twinlock Ord	13	-	-	-	-	-
90	68	68	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	-	15.0	20.8	-	-
56	33	33	Unilock Holdings	32	-	3.0	9.4	5.7	9.7
103	81	81	Walter Alexander	79	-	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	181	181	W. S. Yeates	214	-	13.1	6.1	4.1	8.2

Ross Davies

Sellers depress equities



CENTRAL INDEPENDENT TELEVISION PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1976 No. 1480357)

Issue of

**1,000,000 Voting Ordinary Shares of 50p each and
24,000,000 Non-voting Ordinary Shares of 50p each,
at a price of £1 per Share**

Copies of the prospectus are available from

Albert E. Sharp & Co., Edmund House, 12/22 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3ER.	S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., 30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2EB.	William Chapman & Co., Norwich Union House, South Parade, Nottingham NG1 2LN.
		Stock Beech & Co., 75 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 3HL.

Ice skating

Miss Wood's repertoire is more extensive than her opponent's

By John Hennessy

Three events are included in the British figure skating championships, sponsored by Multi-Broadcast, at Richmond today and tomorrow, but one, the women's championship, occupies nearly all the attention. It presents two fascinating competitions in one, a tussle for the title between Karen Wood (Desside) and Debbie Cottrell, once of Solihull, but now trained in Lake Placid, New York, and a scramble for the bronze medal with the glittering prospect of a place in the British world championship team in Copenhagen in March.

Miss Cottrell, the British title three years ago at 16, but was surprisingly dethroned in 1980 by Karen Richardson, now a professional, and just as surprisingly, was beaten last year by Miss Wood. On both occasions international competition was later to show that domestic results were not reliable guide, particularly under the new scoring system.

Miss Cottrell, whose career has been plagued with injury, was out of last summer because of foot ailments, one of which required surgery. Her manager, therefore, has to be a bit of a fortune teller as her right foot is not fully healed. She should win the figure section, 30 per cent of the marks, and possibly the short programme, (20 per cent), but she will be vulnerable to counter-attack by the champion in the free skating.

Miss Wood, also 19, seemed the more confident of the two in practice yesterday, and her repertoire is the more extensive, with five triple jumps, the toe loop (twice), loop, salchow and lutz. The triple lutz, a highly advanced exercise, so far eludes Miss Cottrell, now trained by Emmerich Daner, former world champion for Austria.

International competition last year offered the further curiosity in addition to the reversal of British form, of Miss Cottrell's third place in Europe and fourth in the world. This allows us three places in Copenhagen, but only two in the European in Lyons.

Christopher Howarth, who has followed his trainer, David Clements, from Richmond to San Diego, and Susan Garland, who has made the reverse transatlantic change, from London to San Diego, to Solihull, should retain the men's and pairs trophies. Miss Garland, however, left her partner behind and is now paired with Ian Jenkins, last year's runner-up with Dawn Fackerell. When the compulsory figures and short programme today (7 am and 3 pm), the free skating will be held tomorrow night (7.30 pm), augmented by exhibitions

Miss Cottrell: her free skating may be suspect.

Racing

A victorious O'Neill has all the answers

By Michael Seely

John O'Neill, riding back in triumph, the unsaddling enclosure after winning the Vaux Brewery Novices Steeplechase yesterday, the smile of happiness on his face, was the 25-year-old Irishman's face was watched by the delighted shouts of supporters which greeted O'Neill after his 12-month absence from the track. The crowd of 3,000 was 50 per cent up on last year.

He came up to the press room afterwards to answer a myriad questions. "How did it feel?" he asked. "Brilliant," he replied. "There are no words to describe the thrill."

The sheer joy of living and of having been in action once again, shared by the former champion's eyes, O'Neill exudes that inner feeling of contentment that only springs from a man at peace with himself and with a happy family behind him. Both the jockey's wife, Sheila, and his two children, a 10-year-old daughter and a half-year-old daughter were there to welcome him back.

Not that O'Neill lacks devilment as those who have watched this human tornado hurling his horses at the fences can testify. "I take it, easy, you know, you're a free lance and will ride for anyone who asks me?" It is obviously too late in the season for him to become a contender for his third championship. But John, Frances and Peter, O'Neill's next season.

'Faceless' man of the sales is unmasked

By Michael Phillips

Hardly a year goes by without a new buyer of interest emerging during Tattersall's December sales at Newmarket. This year is no exception, even though the auctioneer saw fit to remark "whoever they happen to be" after he had knocked down a mare to an unfamiliar face representing International Thoroughbred Breeders Incorporated.

In the future, auctioneers are unlikely to be quite so cheeky, because the man who made that successful bid was Kerry Fitzpatrick, who may be an increasingly familiar figure in the big sale houses of the world. Mr Fitzpatrick is the president and chief executive of ITB, thought to be the first public company set up to deal in bloodstock, primarily in the buying of mares and shares in stallions.

The company, based midway between New York and Philadelphia, receives a daily quotation in the Wall Street Journal, and has been in existence for only 13 months, but already it has acquired 10,000 shareholders, many of whom have been flocking to buy shares when they were put on the market at a dollar a time on April 1. Before this week began those assets already included 50 mares and the same number of shares in top-class stallions. Mr Fitzpatrick has wasted little time in adding to them by shelling out nearly £500,000 on Monday and yesterday buying seven lots.

An American with no Irish blood in his veins, despite his name, Mr Fitzpatrick said, 41, is the drive force behind ITB, but he concedes that the whole operation would never have got off the ground without the official and moral backing of Robert Brennan, who is widely regarded in the United States as one of the most dynamic financiers on Wall Street. Mr Fitzpatrick himself is not exactly short on monetary know-how, having grown up in the banking world, but his heart has always been with horses.

He copied the idea of managing syndicates from a fellow American, Colman Campbell, six years before he finally decided to take the plunge and set up his present company 13 months ago. Yesterday he explained that the law in the United States put companies and individuals at a considerable disadvantage over their counterparts in this country, and that his advantages, his company has leased two thirds of the mares it owns to investors, taking in 20 per cent of the mares overall value and netting almost \$2m in a relatively short time.

ITB was the biggest individual buyers at the recent breeding stock sale in Lexington, Kentucky, conducted by Tipton. Their purchases there included the 1973 1000 Guineas winner, Easton Park, who was in foal to a foal by Roberto. Only last week Fitzpatrick paid \$300,000 Irish guineas for Godin for the Derby, whose son, Shirley Heights, won the Derby and the Irish Derby in the same year that Easton Park sired his great triumph, Harlequin. Fitzpatrick was a nephew, the sire of, amongst others, Grady and Shergar.

The day's top price of 220,000 guineas was for Moravia, by Northern Dancer and a three-year-old sister to Dancing Maid, another high class filly. Moravia was bought for the third time and in California by Richard Caplan, chairman of the Newmarket Bloodstock Agency.

It is 1902 and Madge Syers is the turn of the century Women's Lib gets its skates on

By Dennis Bird

As figure skaters from all over Britain converge on Richmond ice rink for the national championships today and tomorrow it is worth noting that this winter marks the centenary of the birth of the first woman of the skater's title. She was a determined, vivacious and popular girl who, under her married name, Madge Syers, was also the first Olympic champion in women's skating.

To mark the occasion she has just been posthumously elected to the United States Figure Skating Association's Hall of Fame in their museum at Colorado Springs and a commemorative plaque is to be presented to her niece, Mrs Kathleen Lankester, during this week's British championships.

Mrs Syers was born Florence Madeline Cave, one of 13 children of Edward Jarvis Cave. She took up ice skating when she was 15 in the mid-1890s and with her sister, Beatrice, became a skating champion. Beatrice, who lived until 1971 when she was 92, was Mrs Lankester's mother. Madge Cave became an expert in the English style of skating, which included evolutions in formation by mixed teams of four; in 1899 she won the Challenge Shield, the premier award of the National Skating Association.

Fontwell Park programme

- 12.45 FERRING CHASE (Selling: £550; 2m 240 (9 runners))
- 1 010003 ASK ME NICELY (CJ), 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1344, 1345, 1346, 1347, 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359, 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373, 1374, 1375, 1376, 1377, 1378, 1379, 1380, 1381, 1382, 1383, 1384, 1385, 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392, 1393, 1394, 1395, 1396, 1397, 1398, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410, 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1418, 1419, 1420, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1428, 1429, 1430, 1431, 1432, 1433, 1434, 1435, 1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1442, 1443, 1444, 1445, 1446, 1447, 1448, 1449, 1450, 1451, 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459, 1460, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1464, 1465, 1466, 1467, 1468, 1469, 1470, 1471, 1472, 1473, 1474, 1475, 1476, 1477, 1478, 1479, 1480, 1481, 1482, 1483, 1484, 1485, 1486, 1487, 1488, 1489, 1490, 1491, 1492, 1493, 1494, 1495, 1496, 1497, 1498, 1499, 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1509, 1510, 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1517, 1518, 1519, 1520, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1524, 1525, 1526, 1527, 1528, 1529, 1530, 1531, 1532, 1533, 1534, 1535, 1536, 1537, 1538, 1539, 1540, 1541, 1542, 1543, 1544, 1545, 1546, 1547, 1548, 1549, 1550, 1551, 1552, 1553, 1554, 1555, 1556, 1557, 1558, 1559, 1560, 1561, 1562, 1563, 1564, 1565, 1566, 1567, 1568, 1569, 1570, 1571, 1572, 1573, 1574, 1575, 1576, 1577, 1578, 1579, 1580, 1581, 1582, 1583, 1584, 1585, 1586, 1587, 1588, 1589, 1590, 1591, 1592, 1593, 1594, 1595, 1596, 1597, 1598, 1599, 1600, 1601, 1602, 1603, 1604, 1605, 1606, 1607, 1608, 1609, 1610, 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1617, 1618, 1619, 1620, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631, 1632, 1633, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638, 1639, 1640, 1641, 1642, 1643, 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647, 1648, 1649, 1650, 1651, 1652, 1653, 1654, 1655, 1656, 1657, 1658, 1659, 1660, 1661, 1662, 1663, 1664, 1665, 1666, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1673, 1674, 1675, 1676, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 1684, 1685, 1686, 1687, 1688, 1689, 1690, 1691, 1692, 1693, 1694, 1695, 1696, 1697, 1698, 1699, 1700, 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1712, 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716, 1717, 1718, 1719, 1720, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1725, 1726, 1727, 1728, 1729, 1730, 1731, 1732, 1733, 1

Athletics

Call for marathon registration and fee system

By Norman Fox
Athletics Correspondent

Chris Brasher, the race director of the London Marathon, suggested yesterday that British athletics should take advantage of the huge financial potential of the event. Over £200,000 has been returned to runners who cannot be accepted for next year's race on Sunday May 9.

Mr Brasher said: "We are wasting an opportunity we have never had before. We have great athletes like Coe and Ovett but lack decent facilities. I would like to see a registration system for everyone who wants to enter a marathon, with a fee to be paid into the sport every year."

He explained that at the moment only a pound from each runner in the London Marathon was not attached to a club went into athletics, amounting to between £8,000 and £10,000. Entry forms for next year were sent out to 50,000 applicants from all over the world.

Although the police would allow up to 20,000 runners to take part, the organisers cannot cope with more than 16,000. The race will again begin at Greenwich, but the site of the finish has not been decided. The Department of the Environment has not yet given permission for The Mall to be used. The finish could be Trafalgar Square or Westminster.

The organisers still hope permission will be given for The Mall to be used, and Jimmy Saville, who last year, says he will write to the Queen to ask permission. He said yesterday: "It is a tremendous event and if we can run down The Mall



Brasher: lack of decent facilities.

It will make a big difference. He intends running again next year.

Saville said: "The marathon has given me a new lease of life. It has given me more pleasure than the pop scene in the studios with the Beatles." Last year he took four hours to finish, but recently he ran 3hr 48min.

Enthusiasm for the race is such that 35,000 entries have had to be rejected. The organisers originally wanted 14,000 to run but they will now accept a further 2,000. The names will be decided by lottery.

Badminton

Mrs Gilks withdraws

Gillian Gilks, unhappy at being seeded No 3, has withdrawn from the English national championships at Coventry from December 11 to 13. She claimed in a letter to the Badminton Association that it would seriously affect her commercial interests.

Mrs Gilks was expected to defend the singles title she had won eight times previously. She was in the easier half of the draw and still had an excellent chance of reaching the final. Mrs Gilks was expected to play the unseeded Karen Bridge, of Surrey, in the quarter-finals and then the No 2 seed, Jane Webster, of Suffolk, in the semi-finals.

Consequently, Mrs Gilks, who said she would still compete in the doubles, may be in trouble again with the England badminton authorities. A spokesman said yesterday that she was in breach of regulations by withdrawing from the championships without good reason.

Mrs Gilks said: "I considered it an insult to be ranked outside the top two. That is why I pulled out. I am ranked No 1 in the country, the defending champion, and have won the title eight times. There is no one else in the championship who has ever won the title, so I cannot see the justification for seeding me as they have done."

Tennis

Miss Allen loses to Mrs Cawley and her support

Melbourne, Dec 1.—Evonne Cawley, of Australia, making her third comeback, beat Leslie Allen, of the United States, in the second round of the Australian Open here today.

Mrs Cawley, the former Wimbledon champion, who has returned to the game after the birth of her second child, fought back from 4-2 down in the final set to gain a 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 victory.

Miss Allen later criticised the crowd who, in their overwhelming support for Mrs Cawley, regularly clapped the American's errors. The unseeded Miss Allen, who was close to tears at a press conference afterwards, said: "I could tell how many mistakes I made by the way the crowd applauded. If I hit a winner there was a whisper of an ovation."

Mrs Cawley said she was slightly embarrassed by the applause. "I feel for the other player, but on the other hand I am at home and it's great that they are behind me," she eighth seed added.

RESULTS (Australian unless stated): First round: (1) V. Richey (USA) beat (16) B. Parker (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (2) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (15) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (3) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (14) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (4) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (13) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (5) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (12) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (6) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (11) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (7) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (10) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (8) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (9) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (9) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (8) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (10) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (7) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (11) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (6) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (12) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (5) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (13) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (4) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (14) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (3) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (15) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (2) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2; (16) J. H. Richey (USA) beat (1) J. H. Richey (USA) 6-3, 6-2.

Book review

Stroll down Memory Lane with a furious driver

By Peter Ryde

Fat Ward-Thames, for many years golf correspondent of *The Guardian* and still writing a life-size handicap for *Country Life*, has produced an autobiography (*Not Only Golf*, Hodder and Stoughton, £7.95) covering the time from his arrival in England as a young man, parachuted over the Netherlands until the time of his death, when he came to earth among the pheasants in a corner of Norfolk.

In the years between the author mingled with the excited in the world of golf, enabling him to throw unknown light on the heroes of the game in the period broadly covered by the *Big Three*—Palmer, Player, and Nicklaus. One might be tempted to describe the book as a pleasant stroll down Memory Lane, were not strolling too leisurely a word for one who has turned away so many hours in airport lounges and driven so many frenzied miles towards the next destination.

Car-park attendants throughout the world, and not a few waiters, would fail to appreciate the truth of Allister Gould's reference to the author's "unfailing readiness to man...". Anything that impeded his progress roused his fury. He reserved a specially strong brand of it for inanimate objects—mashed sun glasses, the car in front, those crazy stamp machines to be found in American hotel lobbies (he nearly had one up by its roots in Cleveland).

Such impatience might be attributed to the years spent behind a wheel, but deprivation of that kind is more likely to accentuate qualities already implanted. I prefer to think that the sense of urgency arose from a deep concern for, and love of, his job. He gave it everything. A fiery temper, an eye for beauty, a proper streak—the last two characteristics come over

strongly in his writing—probably owe as much to the Welsh blood in him as to anything else. That the prison camp gave him, he suggests, the chance to develop his passion for sport. His account of golf in the United States, which has become a minor classic, provides a powerful lead-in to his later years. He has also derived much pleasure from cricket, and these two aspects of his career are reasons for giving the book the name that he has, even though his devotion to golf has been absolute.

There is another reason. The title owes something to the style in which the book is written. He is not concerned in it with run of play. He turns the pages of memory lightly and comes up with agreeable accounts written in mellifluous language, of meeting nice people in nice places. He has made friends with his heroes and introduces the reader with a light touch to their circle.

Perhaps more than any of his contemporaries he has felt the irritations of a journalist's daily routine, but his writing does not show that. What comes through in the book, rather, is the sound, when work is finished, of ice tinkling in a glass enjoyed on a veranda with a view, and the sides, heard only by him, of the who played principal roles in the golfing dramas of the last quarter of a century.

Teeing off in Tunisia

The leading professional golfers of Britain and Ireland should compete in the £50,000 Tunisian Open championship, which begins the next European golf season from April 15 to 18. This assurance was given to the Professional Golfers Association officials over the weekend during planning meetings at the El Kantoual course.

SECRETARY/PA FOR OUR MANAGING DIRECTOR SALARY: £6,000 PLUS BENEFITS

Maiplan International Limited is a marketing and sales promotion consultancy providing marketing support services for major companies in the industrial and commercial sector of international business.

At this time we are looking for a first class secretary to work with our Managing Director. Applicants must be thoroughly skilled in all day-to-day secretarial activities, have proven administrative abilities; function as a member of a team of dedicated professionals and be able to develop and maintain an excellent working relationship with our staff both here and in Belgium.

Minimum age for this vacancy is 30. Candidates must also be fluent in French and German and be prepared to learn Spanish. Some European travel will be involved in due course and a current driving licence is essential.

Working conditions and terms of employment in this expanding company are very good.

In the first instance please apply in writing with your C.V. to E. A. Steele, Managing Director. All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

Maiplan International Limited

25 High Street, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3DH

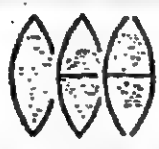
Secretary to Chief Executive

The Chief Executive of our South-and-on-Sea office needs a Secretary.

We are Lloyds Insurance Brokers and Underwriting Agents employing 600 staff at Southend, including large Accounting and Data Processing Departments.

The content of this job will interest a career minded Secretary and we shall be seeking a person who has already demonstrated administrative ability in a senior post apart from possessing secretarial skills of a high order.

Applications are invited from candidates aged 30 to 45 and initial letters should be addressed to:



Mr P. F. NERRETER,

C.E. Heath

Public Limited Company

Colman House, 61/71 Victoria Avenue, South-and-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6DX.

PERSONNEL

£7,000 + MORTGAGE
A career-minded young man with a degree in Business Administration is seeking a position in the South-and-on-Sea area. He is a member of the Institute of Personnel Management and has a good knowledge of the area. He is looking for a position where he can use his skills and experience to the full.

PERSONNEL OFFICER
A career-minded young man with a degree in Business Administration is seeking a position in the South-and-on-Sea area. He is a member of the Institute of Personnel Management and has a good knowledge of the area. He is looking for a position where he can use his skills and experience to the full.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

A large firm trading in the City of London is seeking a Secretary to its Managing Director. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

PERSONNEL OFFICER
A career-minded young man with a degree in Business Administration is seeking a position in the South-and-on-Sea area. He is a member of the Institute of Personnel Management and has a good knowledge of the area. He is looking for a position where he can use his skills and experience to the full.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY
A registered charity with 14 homes in the South of England needs a P.A. to assist its Secretary. The job involves a lot of travel and the successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of duties. The salary is £3,500 to £7,500 plus benefits.

ASSISTANT P.A. TO SECRETARY<

Residential Property, by Baron Philips

Housing market faces a winter of gloom

Leading estate agents are steeling themselves for a lean winter. Agents both in London and elsewhere are reporting a dampening down of the market as Christmas looms nearer.

According to Chestertons' senior residential partner, Mr. Bruce MacEacharn, London's mini-boom of the past eight months is unquestionably over. Although Mr. MacEacharn makes no claim that the market in the capital is dead, he is adamant that life for him and his colleagues is going to be a lot quieter.

The sentiment is echoed by south coast agents Jackson & Jackson who, in their annual review, say that it is likely to be some considerable time before prices begin to rise again.

This year has seen sales in Chestertons' six central London offices increase by 17 per cent with last October witnessing activity as substantial as the same month in 1980. But, according to Mr. MacEacharn, the tide is beginning to turn and the agents are carrying far more property on their books than they have for many years.

This year is hardly likely to be remembered as the year in which foreign buyers dominated London's property market. But a surprisingly high proportion of houses and flats were sold to overseas buyers. According to Chestertons, a third of all property they sold went to an overseas purchaser but in value terms foreigners accounted for 44 per cent of sales.

A surging pound on the foreign exchange markets will put paid to an increase in the number of overseas buyers but those already contemplating a London purchase may be able to pick up a bargain or two as the market slips into the doldrums.

Some indication how far the market has slipped since the heady days of the late 1970's can be seen from two of the range deals concluded by Chestertons this year. The firm sold a modern



Lemington Manor, a seventeenth-century manor house, near Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire, has been sold for around £180,000 through Lane Fox & Partners. The property has seven bedrooms, three bathrooms and two fine reception rooms and stands in about 19 acres.

flat for just over £1m, a massive fall from its original £1m plus asking price in 1978. While a Kensington flat was first offered for sale in 1979 at £1.5m finally sold for £600,000.

Older houses and flats registered the largest gains this year. The selling price of a flat in Wynstan Gardens, Kensington, was 27 per cent higher than in 1979 while an older house in Blomfield Road W9 increased by 20 per cent over the price two years ago.

As Jackson & Jackson note in their review of the year, 1981 will be remembered as the year when interest rates fluctuated wildly, yet there was more money available for the mortgage market than probably any time since the boom. But most agents will admit there are more properties on their registers than they have willing buyers for — in short this year's market is a buyer's market.

A general lack of confidence in the economy has inspired this somewhat extraordinary situation. Yet there has been a tremendous surge in the number of first-time buyers flooding into the market. In a speech to the Marketing Society last week Barratt Developments sales and marketing director Mr

J. S. R. Swanson said that home ownership in Britain should move from 56 per cent to 60 per cent by the end of this decade. Much of this thrust for home ownership is coming from young people.

While all that may be true, builders like Barratt's are gearing more and more of their operation to first-time buyers where obviously the current strength of the market lies. This has little or no effect on the more general house market because it is receiving very little stimulation from buyers trading up.

The next few months will be quiet. The prospect of trailing around dozens of houses and flats in cold damp weather appeals to few but the hardy. Come spring and the market can expect to pick up again or at least interest in house buying will be on the move. Whether this will be reflected in an upward swing in prices is not sure. Most commentators believe that a return in confidence in the economy must happen before prices start to rise.

Time-sharing in England has mainly been based around spectacular country house offering substantial and grand accommodation with many facilities available, at a price. But one of the latest

schemes is for people who want a holiday home where all is peace, quiet and remoteness.

Within the 12 acres of grounds surrounding a 17th century house called Carvynick in Cornwall, close to Newquay and 12 miles from Truro, the owners have built a cluster of one and two bedroom cottages.

The scheme has been put together by two couples Mike and Anne Burgess and John and Anne Gaskin, the latter couple actually live in the main house. The units are well fitted out and in the grounds there is a clubhouse with a bar and restaurant. It is ideal for people who want to get away from the normal hurly-burly and simply relax for a week or two in the country.

Prices for the scheme vary from £520 to £3,900 a week plus management charges of £45 a year. Sales are being handled through Holiday Timeshare Index, 1 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A and prospective purchasers can look at the project on a special free weekend inspection trip.

The Salisbury office of Strutt & Parker together with Walworth & Co of Mere, are selling Knapp House, Gillingham in Dorset. Standing in about 4½ acres, the Grade II listed seventeenth century house has three reception rooms, six bedrooms, two dressing rooms and three bathrooms. In addition, there are two cottages in the grounds.

A fine Tudor house on the edge of London is on the market through Birstow Eves' Hornchurch office for around £200,000. The house, Capel Nemes, is at Emerson Park, Hornchurch, Essex.

Constructed of timber frame with a peg tiled roof, the house has nine bedrooms and about six reception rooms. Its features include a 300-year-old staircase, a "minstrel's gallery", some fireplaces, exposed woodwork, and it stands in about 1½ acres of secluded grounds.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Humberts

Herefordshire
Near Hereford
A very fine period country house in the Jacobean style with outstanding views of the Malvern Hills
4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, cloakroom, central heating, kitchen/breakfast room, 4 self-contained flats, tennis court, outbuildings, cottage garden and grounds, paddock.
£25,000 Freehold with about 5 acres
Details: London Office Tel: 01-242 3121 (01/25/27/JCRH)

Sussex
East Grinstead 5 miles Haywards Heath 7 miles
A most attractive timber framed country house
Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, music room, min-streils gallery, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, oil fired central heating, grating for 3 cars, lovely landscaped gardens, small lake, paddock area.
For Sale Freehold with about 21 acres
Details: London Office Tel: 01-242 3121 (01/25/27/JCRH)

6 Lincoln's Inn Fields London WC2A 3DE
Telephone 01-242 3121 Telex 27444

Hampton & Sons

6 Arlington Street, St. James's, London SW1A 1RB
Telephone: 01-492 8222, Telex: 25351

MID SUSSEX

IMPOSING ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE

Suitable for a variety of institutional uses. Previously a Nursing and Medical Centre with new building in grounds, central heating, 17 beds, 11 baths & 11 cunks, 7 fine reception, etc. Over 13,000 sq. ft.

Period barns, garaging, walled garden, hard tennis court, swimming pool, etc. In all about 16 acres.

Further details apply Sole Agents:

TAYLOR & TESTER

3 King Street, East Grinstead, Sussex. Tel (0342) 24478

OVERSEAS PROPERTIES

Readers are strongly advised to seek legal advice before entering into any property transaction.

PHOENIX SCOTSDALE

Arizona
Catalpa Agents for Commercial, Residential, Office, Industrial, Retail, etc. Properties. Also, for information and details.

Phoenix, Arizona

1245 East Missouri Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85014 U.S.A.

Tel: 602 274 6334

FLORIDA

VACATION RENTALS

BOYNTON BEACH
Lux condos, fully equip, furn, 1 week min.

Lynn G. Geller, Real Est. Inc., 6100 Estero Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL 33901, (813) 463-5252. We also handle sales.

PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Apartment for sale, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, wood floors, tile, etc. \$185,000 (813) 244-2377.

MILAN, ITALY

2-bedroom flat, approx 12 sq m, fully furnished, central heating, etc. \$185,000 (813) 244-2377.

LONDON FLATS

SEYMOUR PLACE

2 bedroom luxury flat with large patio in small modern block. Very special modern improvements. Fully furnished. Easy access to transport. Call for details.

Price £85,000

Tel: 01-723 4397

RIVERSIDE

FLAT

Located between Chiswick and Uxbridge. Close to the river. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

WITH DIRECT RIVER

Views

A delightful 2nd floor flat in a fine modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

W14

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

GILLINGHAM

10 minutes walk, in by train. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

LONDON FLATS

1st floor 4 b block in a modern building. Fully furnished. Call for details.

Price £43,000

with long lease 748 0921 (res.)

HOLLAND PARK

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV/LONDON	Radio 4	Radio 3	Radio 2	Radio 1	World Service
<p>9.05 For Schools. Colleges: Engineering Production 9.30 Science Workshop 10.00 You and Me. Swing and Sway with Jamila Massey (not on 10.15) 10.15 The Christmas Tree 11.17 Road On! 11.40 Looking Ahead 12.05 French conversation 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Maura Stuart 12.57 Regional news (not London) 1.00 Pebble Mill at One, with Katherine Whitworth of the Observer illustrating her culinary expertise 1.45 Fingerbobs. Shapes, introduced by Rick Jones (7) 2.01 For Schools and Colleges: The Nativity 2.18 Near and Far 2.40 Merry-go-round 3.00 Snooker. Live coverage of the first semi-final in the United Kingdom Championships being played at the Guild Hall, Preston. David Vine introduces the action. 3.55 Regional news (not London)</p>	<p>10.20 Gharbar. A magazine programme with advice for Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives introduced by Carol Leader and Don Spencer. Today there is a film story, Brocky the Badger, and it is told by Judy Hawkins. 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 One Man and His Dog. The BBC Television International Sheepdog Championship introduced by Phil Drabble with Eric Halseil. This first semi-final sees Alastair Mundell of Scotland competing against England's Raymond Macpherson. In addition the Bruce Championship begins with Jim McConnell of Ireland facing Gwilym Jones from Wales (7).</p>	<p>9.30 For Schools: Insight for the hearing impaired 9.47 Picture Box 10.40 The work of the baker 10.16 A visit to the Samur riding academy 10.38 Living in Bradford 11.02 Christmas celebrations 11.20 The defeat of games 11.39 How we used to live 12.00 The Branch Bunch. Animated vegetables for the very young 12.10 Rainbow Learning with puppets 12.30 Turning Point. Colin Morris talks to a lady who has found help at Al-Anon, the association that helps families of drinkers 1.00 News with Peter Seaton 1.20 Thames News 1.30 Armchair Theatre: High Tide. Part two of this series reflects the incident that sent him to prison for manslaughter (2.00 After Noon Play. Among the guests is Ted Watkins, Chairman of Watts Labour Community Action Committee 2.45 Charlie's Angels. The three detectives are given another crime to solve by the unseen Charlie (3) 3.45 Emmerdale Farm (7).</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Morning Today. 6.30 Today. 6.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 6.40 Midweek: Noel Edmonds. 10.00 News. 10.02 Gardeners' Question Time with Whittington Women's Institute, Staffordshire. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Morning Story: "Two Friends" by Guy De Maupassant. 11.00 News. 11.05 Baker's Dozen. 12.00 News. 12.02 You and Yours. 12.27 A Walk in the Dark. A series in five parts by Chris Boucher. With Patricia Hayes and Helen Adams Wood (Part 2). 12.55 Weather. 1.00 News. 1.40 The Archers. 2.02 Women's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: "Two Plus One" by Josephine Haden. 3.50 The City of the Plains: We visit four great cities of northern Italy (1) Mantua. 4.00 The Record: Gerald Presland offers a plain man's guide to the Christian faith (1) Bread, Water and Wine. 4.45 Story Time: "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" by Charles Dickens (2). 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 The Senior Partner (series) Andrew Cuckoochank in "Not Proven". 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint. 7.45 The Radio Lectures 1981: "The Two-Edged Sword". Six talks by Professor Laurence Martin, Director-General of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, on armed force in the modern world (4) "Conflicts of the Third World". 8.15 See to the West. Felt to the East: A sound picture of Copeland, a county explored part of the Lake District. 8.45 Analysis: "The Lobbyists". A look at the influence of the people who claim to oil the wheels of democracy. 9.30 The World Tonight. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Quote... Unquote (new series) Neil and the guests share their favourite quotations.</p>	<p>6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Record producer Noel Edmonds. 8.00 News. 8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Noel Edmonds. 9.00 News. 9.05 The Week's Composer. Sibelius records (1). 10.00 Gabriel Quartet Spring Quartet. 11.00 Music for Organ Recital on the organ of the Royal Festival Hall, London: Bach, Brahms, Schumann. 11.35 Midday Concert. Rossini, Prokofiev, Liszt, Schubert. 1.00 News. 1.05 Concert Hall Piano recital direct from Broadcasting House.</p>	<p>5.03 Ray Moore 7.30 Terry Wogan 10.00 Jimmy Young 12.00 John Peel 1.00 Ed Sheeran 1.40 David Hamilton 1.55 News 6.00 David Durrant 6.00 Alan Dell 8.30 The Mitchell Miners 9.00 The Boston Pops 10.00 Animal Alphabet (5) R. 1. 10.30 Hubert Gregg 11.00 Brian Matthews from midnight 1.00 am. 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.</p>	<p>5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read 9.00 Simon Bates 11.00 David Lowe 11.30 News 12.00 Paul Burnett 3.30 Steve Wright 5.00 Peter Powell 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag. Phone in on 01-550 4411. 8.00 David Jensen 10.00 John Peel 12.00 midnight Close VHF. Radio 1 AND 2. 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.</p>	<p>BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (640 kHz, 465) at the following times (GMT) - 6.00 hours, 1.5.45, 2.45, 3.45, 4.45, 5.45, 6.45, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, </p>

FREQUENCIES. Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/88.5 or 1089kHz/27.5m; Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 908kHz/330m; Radio 3 VLF 17.7V 88-91MHz; Radio 4 VLF 1215kHz/247m; Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92.5MHz; Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m; LBC MF 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3MHz; Capital FM 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8MHz; BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/200m and VHF 94.3MHz; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

ANGLIA	HTV	GRANADA	CHANNEL
As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 About Agony. 12.3 am Big Question.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 12.00-12.30pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.
ULSTER	HTV CYMRU/WALES	WESTWARD	TYNE TEES
As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As HTV except 12.00-12.10 pm. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 9.20-9.30pm Good News. 9.30-9.45 News. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.
YORKSHIRE	BORDER	SOUTHERN	ATV
As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.
SCOTTISH	GRAMPIAN		
As Thames except 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Stumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.	As Thames except 9.25-9.30 First News. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Oscar 6.30-6.45 Crossroads. 6.50-7.00 News. 12.25 am Closedown.		



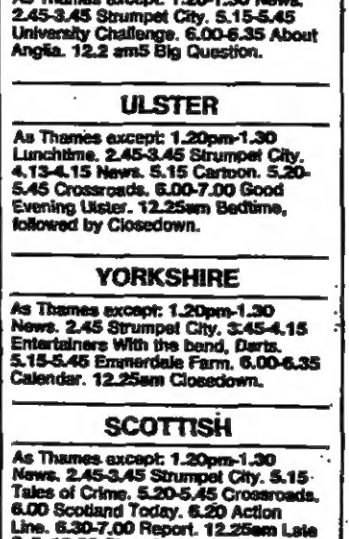
Prison justice is the subject of tonight's **STRANGEWAYS** (BBC 2 8.20 pm). In a prisoner in the notorious D1 punishment landing, accuses a prison warden of brutality following an argument between them after Ian had collected his meal. That the argument took place is not in doubt but what followed is disputed. It is no light decision for a prisoner to accuse a warden of wrongdoing because if he loses his appeal he stands to lose his remission and have six months added to his sentence. The programme reveals Ian's reaction to the enquiry results in an extraordinarily tense climax.

● The pleasant **CLOSING** NOW programme (BBC 2 7.50 pm) tonight comes with one of its twelve-week run with one of its items on something that has been designated aerotoxicology. This rather forbidding word describes

the collecting of propaganda leaflets dropped by air. Millions of them were despatched to Britain and Germany during World War Two and the collector, Reginald Auckland, shows us some examples. Churchill, Wanted for Murder and the German people offer Peace — are but two. This type of psychology is still being used today in places as far apart as Chile and Taiwan. The presenter, Harriet Crawley, with Gwyn Richards and Penny Juno go on an optimistic buying spree with just £5 each. What sort of collection can be bought for that amount? Well, Harriet finds a new T-shirt to add to her international collection; Gwyn buys some intriguing photographs and Penny some old toys. It has been an

entertaining series. I hope there will be another.

● **SEA TO THE WEST, FELS TO THE EAST** (Radio 4 8.15 pm) is a description of Copeland, a little known part of the Lake District. David Miles has compiled a number of recordings illustrating the essence of the area through the eyes and voices of various Cumbrian characters. We learn from a farmer about the odd habits of Hardwick sheep; the miniature scenic railway is described in loving fashion by a train driver; typical Cumbrian recipes are explained by a farmer's wife and an iron ore worker gives his reaction to the closure of the local mines. Among the places we visit is Egremont Crab Fair and we eavesdrop on a competition to find the highest fish. In addition, Norman Nicholson, Copeland's very own poet, regales us with his thoughts on this beautiful part of the country.



George Cole and Gwen Watford star in the Afternoon Theatre production **TWO PLUS ONE** (Radio 4 3.02 pm).

George Cole and Gwen Watford star in the Afternoon Theatre production **TWO PLUS ONE** (Radio 4 3.02 pm).

George Cole and Gwen Watford star in the Afternoon Theatre production **TWO PLUS ONE** (Radio 4 3.02 pm).

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

CC Meat credit cards accepted for all meals. 01-550 7611. 01-550 7612. 01-550 7613. 01-550 7614. 01-550 7615. 01-550 7616. 01-550 7617. 01-550 7618. 01-550 7619. 01-550 7620. 01-550 7621. 01-550 7622. 01-550 7623. 01-550 7624. 01-550 7625. 01-550 7626. 01-550 7627. 01-550 7628. 01-550 7629. 01-550 7630. 01-550 7631. 01-550 7632. 01-550 7633. 01-550 7634. 01-550 7635. 01-550 7636. 01-550 7637. 01-550 7638. 01-550 7639. 01-550 7640. 01-550 7641. 01-550 7642. 01-550 7643. 01-550 7644. 01-550 7645. 01-550 7646. 01-550 7647. 01-550 7648. 01-550 7649. 01-550 7650. 01-550 7651. 01-550 7652. 01-550 7653. 01-550 7654. 01-550 7655. 01-550 7656. 01-550 7657. 01-550 7658. 01-550 7659. 01-550 7660. 01-550 7661. 01-550 7662. 01-550 7663. 01-550 7664. 01-550 7665. 01-550 7666. 01-550 7667. 01-550 7668. 01-550 7669. 01-550 7670. 01-550 7671. 01-550 7672. 01-550 7673. 01-550 7674. 01-550 7675. 01-550 7676. 01-550 7677. 01-550 7678. 01-550 7679. 01-550 7680. 01-550 7681. 01-550 7682. 01-550 7683. 01-550 7684. 01-550 7685. 01-550 7686. 01-550 7687. 01-550 7688. 01-550 7689. 01-550 7690. 01-550 7691. 01-550 7692. 01-550 7693. 01-550 7694. 01-550 7695. 01-550 7696. 01-550 7697. 01-550 7698. 01-550 7699. 01-550 7700. 01-550 7701. 01-550 7702. 01-550 7703. 01-550 7704. 01-550 7705. 01-550 7706. 01-550 7707. 01-550 7708. 01-550 7709. 01-550 7710. 01-550 7711. 01-550 7712. 01-550 7713. 01-550 7714. 01-550 7715. 01-550 7716. 01-550 7717. 01-550 7718. 01-550 7719. 01-550 7720. 01-550 7721. 01-550 7722. 01-550 7723. 01-550 7724. 01-550 7725. 01-550 7726. 01-550 7727. 01-550 7728. 01-550 7729. 01-550 7730. 01-550 7731. 01-550 7732. 01-550 7733. 01-550 7734. 01-550 7735. 01-550 7736. 01-550 7737. 01-550 7738. 01-550 7739. 01-550 7740. 01-550 7741. 01-550 7742. 01-550 7743. 01-550 7744. 01-550 7745. 01-550 7746. 01-550 7747. 01-550 7748. 01-550 7749. 01-550 7750. 01-550 7751. 01-550 7752. 01-550 7753. 01-550 7754. 01-550 7755. 01-550 7756. 01-550 7757. 01-550 7758. 01-550 7759. 01-550 7760. 01-550 7761. 01-550 7762. 01-550 7763. 01-550 7764. 01-550 7765. 01-550 7766. 01-550 7767. 01-550 7768. 01-550 7769. 01-550 7770. 01-550 7771. 01-550 7772. 01-550 7773. 01-550 7774. 01-550 7775. 01-550 7776. 01-550 7777. 01-550 7778. 01-550 7779. 01-550 7780. 01-550 7781. 01-550 7782. 01-550 7783. 01-550 7784. 01-550 7785. 01-550 7786. 01-550 7787. 01-550 7788. 01-550 7789. 01-550 7790. 01-550 7791. 01-550 7792. 01-550 7793. 01-550 7794. 01-550 7795. 01-550 7796. 01-550 7797. 01-550 7798. 01-550 7799. 01-550 7800. 01-550 7801. 01-550 7802. 01-550 7803. 01-550 7804. 01-550 7805. 01-550 7806. 01-550 7807. 01-550 7808. 01-550 7809. 01-550 7810. 01-550 7811. 01-550 7812. 01-550 7813. 01-550 7814. 01-550 7815. 01-550 7816. 01-550 7817. 01-550 7818. 01-550 7819. 01-550 7820. 01-550 7821. 01-550 7822. 01-550 7823. 01-550 7824. 01-550 7825. 01-550 7826. 01-550 7827. 01-550 7828. 01-550 7829. 01-550 7830. 01-550 7831. 01-550 7832. 01-550 7833. 01-550 7834. 01-550 7835. 01-550 7836. 01-550 7837. 01-550 7838. 01-550 7839. 01-550 7840. 01-550 7841. 01-550 7842. 01-550 7843. 01-550 7844. 01-550 7845. 01-550 7846. 01-550 7847. 01-550 7848. 01-550 7849. 01-550 7850. 01-550 7851. 01-550 7852. 01-550 7853. 01-550 7854. 01-550 7855. 01-550 7856. 01-550 7857. 01-550 7858. 01-550 7859. 01-550 7860. 01-550 7861. 01-550 7862. 01-550 7863. 01-550 7864. 01-550 7865. 01-550 7866. 01-550 7867. 01-550 7868. 01-550 7869. 01-550 7870. 01-550 7871. 01-550 7872. 01-550 7873. 01-550 7874. 01-550 7875. 01-550 7876. 01-550 7877. 01-550 7878. 01-550 7879. 01-550 7880. 01-550 7881. 01-550 7882. 01-550 7883. 01-550 7884. 01-550 7885. 01-550 7886. 01-550 7887. 01-550 7888. 01-550 7889. 01-550 7890. 01-550 7891. 01-550 7892. 01-550 7893. 01-550 7894. 01-550 7895. 01-550 7896. 01-550 7897. 01-550 7898. 01-550 7899. 01-550 7900. 01-550 7901. 01-550 7902. 01-550 7903. 01-550 7904. 01-550 7905. 01-550 7906. 01-550 7907. 01-550 7908. 01-550 7909. 01-550 7910. 01-550 7911. 01-550 7912. 01-550 7913. 01-550 7914. 01-550 7915. 01-550 7916. 01-550 7917. 01-550 7918. 01-550 7919. 01-550 7920. 01-550 7921. 01-550 7922. 01-550 7923. 01-550 7924. 01-550 7925. 01-550 7926. 01-550 7927. 01-550 7928. 01-550 7929. 01-550 7930. 01-550 7931. 01-550 7932. 01-550 7933. 01-550 7934. 01-550 7935. 01-550 7936. 01-550 7937. 01-550 7938. 01-550 7939. 01-550 7940. 01-550 7941. 01-550 7942. 01-550 7943. 01-550 7944. 01-550 7945. 01-550 7946. 01-550 7947. 01-550 7948. 01-550 7949. 01-550 7950. 01-550 7951. 01-550 7952. 01-550 7953. 01-550 7954. 01-550 7955. 01-550 7956. 01-550 7957. 01-550 7958. 01-550 7959. 01-550 7960. 01-550 7961. 01-550 7962. 01-550 7963. 01-550 7964. 01-550 7965. 01-550 7966. 01-550 7967. 01-550 7968. 01-550 7969. 01-550 7970. 01-550 7971. 01-550 7972. 01-550 7973. 01-550 7974. 01-550 7975. 01-550 7976. 01-550 7977. 01-550 7978. 01-550 7979. 01-550 7980. 01-550 7981. 01-550 7982. 01-550 7983. 01-550 7984. 01-550 7985. 01-550 7986. 01-550 7987. 01-550 7988. 01-550 7989. 01-550 7990. 01-550 7991. 01-550 7992. 01-550 7993. 01-550 7994. 01-550 7995. 01-550 7996. 01-550 7997. 01-550 7998. 01-550 7999. 01-550 8000. 01-550 8001. 01-550 8002. 01-550 8003. 01-550 8004. 01-550 8005. 01-550 8006. 01-550 8007. 01-550 8008. 01-550 8009. 01-550 8010. 01-550 8011. 01-550 8012. 01-550 8013. 01-550 8014. 01-550 8015. 01-550 8016. 01-550 8017. 01-550 8018. 01-550 8019. 01-550 8020. 01-550 8021. 01-550 8022. 01-550 8023. 01-550 8024. 01-550 8025. 01-550 8026. 01-550 8027. 01-550 8028. 01-550 8029. 01-550 8030. 01-550 8031. 01-550 8032. 01-550 8033. 01-550 8034. 01-550 8035. 01-550 8036. 01-550 8037. 01-550 8038. 01-550 8039. 01-550 8040. 01-550 8041. 01-550 8042. 01-550 8043. 01-550 8044. 01-550 8045. 01-550 8046. 01-550 8047. 01-550 8048. 01-550 8049. 01-550 8050. 01-550 8051. 01-550 8052. 01-550 8053. 01-550 8054. 01-550 8055. 01-550 8056. 01-550 8057. 01-550 8058. 01-550 8059. 01-550 8060. 01-550 8061. 01-550 8062. 01-550 8063. 01-550 8064. 01-550 8065. 01-550 8066. 01-550 8067. 01-550 8068. 01-550 8069. 01-550 8070. 01-550 8071. 01-550 8072. 01-550 8073. 01-550 8074. 01-550 8075. 01-550 8076. 01-550 8077. 01-550 8078. 01-550 8079. 01-550 8080. 01-550 8081. 01-550 8082. 01-550 8083. 01-550 8084. 01-550 8085. 01-550 8086. 01-550 8087. 01-550 8088. 01-550 8089. 01-550 8090. 01-550 8091. 01-550 8092. 01-550 8093. 01-550 8094. 01-550 8095. 01-550 8096. 01-550 8097. 01-550 8098. 01-550 8099. 01-550 8100. 01-550 8101. 01-550 8102. 01-550 8103. 01-550 8104. 01-550 8105. 01-550 8106. 01-550 8107. 01-550 8108. 01-550 8109. 01-550 8110. 01-550 8111. 01-550 8112. 01-550 8113. 01-550 8114. 01-550 8115. 01-550 8116. 01-550 8117. 01-550 8118. 01-550 8119. 01-550 8120. 01-550 8121. 01-550 8122. 01-550 8123. 01-550 8124. 01-550 8125. 01-550 8126. 01-550 8127. 01-550 8128. 01-550 8129. 01-550 8130. 01-550 8131. 01-550 8132. 01-550 8133. 01-550 8134. 01-550 8135. 01-550 8136. 01-550 8137. 01-550 8138. 01-550 8139. 01-550 8140. 01-550 8141. 01-550 8142. 01-550 8143. 01-550 8144. 01-550 8145. 01-550 8146. 01-550 8147. 01-550 8148. 01-550 8149. 01-550 8150. 01-550 8151. 01-550 8152. 01-550 8153. 01-550 8154. 01-550 8155. 01-550 8156. 01-550 8157. 01-550 8158. 01-550 8159. 01-550 8160. 01-550 8161. 01-550 8162. 01-550 8163. 01-550 8164. 01-550 8165. 01-550 8166. 01-550 8167. 01-550 8168. 01-550 8169. 01-550 8170. 01-550 8171. 01-550 8172. 01-550 8173. 01-550 8174. 01-550 8175. 01-550 8176. 01-550 8177. 01-550 8178. 01-550 8179. 01-550 8180. 01-550 8181. 01-550 8182. 01-550 8183. 01-550 8184. 01-550 8185. 01-550 8186. 01-550 8187. 01-550 818

